

Justice David N. Wecht
1962-

Term

January 2016–January 2026



Education

- Yale University, Yale College, B.A, 1984
- Yale University, The Yale Law School, J.D., 1987
- Notes Editor, The Yale Law Journal

Professional Experience

- Judicial Law Clerk to Hon. George E. MacKinnon, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, Washington, DC, 1987-1988
- Associate, Williams & Connolly, Washington, DC, 1989-1993
- Associate, Katarincic & Salmon, Pittsburgh, PA, 1993-1996
- Partner, The Wecht Law Firm, Pittsburgh, PA, 1996-2003
- Register of Wills & Clerk of Orphans' Court, Allegheny County, 1998-2003
- Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Allegheny County, 2003-2012; Administrative Judge, Family Division, 2009-2011
- Judge, Superior Court of Pennsylvania, 2012-2016
- Adjunct Professor, Duquesne University School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA, 1997-Present
- Adjunct Faculty, Graduate School of Public & International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 2010-Present
- Elected Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, November 2015

Honors and Awards

- Phi Beta Kappa, Summa Cum Laude
- Certificate of Distinguished Service, U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit, 1989
- "Pittsburgh's Fifty Finest" Award, Pittsburgh Magazine, 1997
- "The Fabulous Forty Under Forty" Award, Pittsburgh Magazine, 1999
- Honorary Citizenship, City of Harrisburg, PA, 2000
- Certificate of Recognition, Variety Club, The Children's Charity, Pittsburgh, PA, 2000
- U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Commander's Award, Toys For Tots, 2001
- Certificates of Recognition, Regional Development Funding Corp., Pittsburgh, PA, 2000, 2001
- Humanitarian Award, J.N.L. Club, 2003
- Jewish Law Day Award 2016, Louis D. Brandeis Law Society, Philadelphia, PA, May 10, 2016

Memberships and Associations

- American, Pennsylvania, Allegheny County Bar Associations
- American Law Institute
- Board of Trustees, The Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science & Law, Duquesne University
- Fellow, Allegheny County Bar Foundation

Publications

- The Judicial Opinions of David N. Wecht (2003-2010): of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (2v. 2011)
- Wecht, Cyril H., D. A. Berman, David N. Wecht, and B.H. Adler. So You Are Involved In A Lawsuit—What Happens Now? (2003)
- Articles
- AIDS: Medical, Legal and Societal Concerns, in Forensic Sciences (Chapter 29D) (C.H. Wecht ed., 2002)

- Allegheny Courts Launch Initiative To Better Help Families, AOPC Connected (Administrative Office Of Pennsylvania Courts) (Issue 1, 2010)
- Appellate Advocacy: Slides. Advanced Appellate Advocacy: Presenting Complex Issues in the PA Courts (2017)
- Appellate Advocacy: Slides. How to Appeal a Commercial Case in the PA Courts (2015)
- Back To Debtors' Prison. 31 Pa. Law Weekly 1270 (November 24, 2008)
- Change in Order/or Local Rule on Summary Judgment Oppositions, 121 no. 118 Pittsburgh Legal Journal 1 (June 23, 1995)
- Child Interviews In Custody Cases Involving Pro Se Parents. 31 Pa. Family Lawyer 106 (2009)
- Comment on Trial Aids. 31 Pa. Family Lawyer 55 (2009)
- Court Of Common Pleas Family Division Launches New Unified Family Court. Lawyers Journal (February 26, 2010)
- Crimes, Counseling and Custody. 29 Pa. Family Lawyer 22 (2007)
- The Discipline of Rules. 29 Pa. Family Lawyer 138 (2007)
- A Disregard For Sensitivity, 31 Pa. Law Weekly 1373 (December 22, 2008)
- Helpful Tips for Preparing Your Client for a Deposition. 23 Pa. Law Weekly 509 (May 15, 2000) [republished at 13:1 The Advocate 11 (September/October 2000)].
- Hope Guy—Judicial Perspectives. 14th Annual Current Issues for Child Advocates (2010)
- How Unfettered Advocates Distort Child Care Cases, 32 Pa. Law Weekly 125 (February 2, 2009)
- Jordan: Confronting the Reality. 38 Midstream 2 (1992)
- A Name Proposal For Children's Cases. 35 Pa. Family Lawyer 52 (2013)
- Note, Breaking the Code of Deference: Judicial Review of Private Prisons, 96 Yale L.J. 815 (1987)
- Overseas Deployments. 31 Pa. Family Lawyer 21 (2009); Family Law Institute (2019)
- Parent Coordinators in Pennsylvania: Some Initial Thoughts. 28 Pa. Family Lawyer 109 (2006); 4th Annual Family Law Institute (2009)
- PowerPoint: Appellate Advocacy. Appellate Advocacy in the State Courts (2016)
- A Proposal for Reform of Pennsylvania's Slayers' Act: Protecting Innocent Family Members of Slain Victims, 23 Pa. Law Weekly 613 (June 12, 2000)
- Reform Needed on Personal Care Homes. Pittsburgh Legal Journal 1 (December 27, 1996) Daily Edition.
- Revisiting The Gruber Test: The Whimsy O/The "Momentary Whim". 31 Pa. Family Lawyer 71(2009)
- Select Orders of Court. Custody Law Update 2005 (2005)
- Stipulation and Order for Parent Coordination. Parent Coordinators in Pennsylvania: Handling High Conflict Custody Cases (2006)
- Thanksgivukkah. The Spark Magazine (Winter 2013)
- The Unified Family Court. 32 Pa. Family Lawyer 28 (2010)
- Wecht, Cyril H. and David N. Wecht. AIDS and the Law: Some Contemporary Developments, LXXVIII Pa. B. Assn Q. 134 (2007)
- Wecht, Cyril H. and David N. Wecht. HIV Testing: Health Care Workers' Obligations. 1993 Internal Medicine (November 1993)
- Wecht, Cyril H. and David N. Wecht. HIV Testing: To Whom Can You Provide Results? 1993 Internal Medicine (September 1993)
- Wecht, Cyril H. and David N. Wecht. Legal Aspects of AIDS and the Practice of Medicine. I Legal Medicine Perspectives 1 (1992)
- Wecht, Cyril H. and David N. Wecht. Obtaining Informed Consent to HIV Testing. 1993 Internal Medicine (August 1993),
- Wecht, Cyril H. and David N. Wecht. Update on AIDS: Medical, Legal and Societal Concerns. 25 Scalpel and Quill 3:1 (1991); [republished in Legal Medicine 1992 (Butterworth 1993) and in Forensic Sciences (Matthew Bender 1993)].
- Wecht, David N. and Jennifer Forbes. Discipline Of Pennsylvania Psychologists Relies Upon An Unlawful Delegation Of Rulemaking Authority, 32:4 Pa. Family Lawyer 201(2010)
- Wecht, David N. and Jennifer Forbes. Haste Can Make Waste: Speedy Trials And Custody. 32 Pa. Family Lawyer 83 (2010)

- Wecht, David N. and Jennifer Forbes. Some Tips For New Lawyers ... And Some Reminders For Veteran Lawyers. 33 Pa. Family Lawyer 72 (2011)

Book Reviews

- American Reckoning: A Thoughtful Look At Vietnam And The Mistakes We Keep Making. Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (February 8, 2015)
- Breaking In: The Rise Of Sonia Sotomayor and The Politics Of Justice. Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (October 26, 2014)
- Dallas 1963: Two Texas Writers Examine The Toxic Stew Of That Year, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (November 16, 2013)
- Demon Camp: A Revealing Look At The Torment Of A War Veteran, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (February 28, 2014)
- Little Failure : Growing Up Russian, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (July 14, 2014)
- 'One Of Us: The Stay Of Anders Breivik': The Unthinkable Act Of Political Savagery In Nmwap. Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (May 24, 2015)
- "The Quartet: Orchestrating The Second American Revolution 1783-1789", Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (July 5, 2015)
- The True American : Murder And Mercy In Texas, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (May 16, 2014),
- When The Wall Came Tumbling Down : May Elise Saroffe Charts The Cold War's Sudden End, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (November 23, 2014)

Sources

118 Pa. Manual 5-60 (2007); 123 Pa. Manual 5-21 (2017); David Wecht, Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Wecht; David N. Wecht, Ballotpedia, https://ballotpedia.org/David_N._Wecht; Joel Fishman, Judges of Allegheny County, Fifth Judicial District, Pennsylvania (1788-2008) 161 (2009).