Mathematics, Science and the Law: Will This Ever Work?

Judge Morris Hoffman

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2014
5:00 - 6:00 P.M.
MATH 100

(Pizza and refreshments to follow in MATH 175)

What does the n-body problem have to do with legal causation? What does the mind/body problem have to do with the criminal law? What has the United States Supreme Court said about testing the reliability of science in the courtroom? Come find out, and rub some math/law elbows.

Morris B. Hoffman  B.A., University of Colorado (1974, mathematics, with honors); J.D., University of Colorado School of Law (1977); managing editor of the Law Review (1976-77). Judge Hoffman is a state trial judge in Denver, where he has been presiding over civil and felony criminal trials for the past 24 years. He is an adjunct professor of law at the University of Colorado and the University of Denver, where he teaches three classes: 1) Law and the Biology of Human Nature; 2) Law and Neuroscience; and 2) Jury History and Selection. He is a founding and continuing member of The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation’s Research Network on Law and Neuroscience, and a research fellow at the Gruter Institute for Law and Behavioral Research. He has published numerous book chapters, essays in collections, law review articles, and op-eds in national newspapers, most of them in the areas of law and science, criminal jurisprudence, and the jury. He is the author of a book titled “The Punisher’s Brain: The Evolution of Judge and Jury,” released in May 2014 by Cambridge University Press.