

Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence

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This Federal Judicial Center publication was undertaken in furtherance of the Center's statutory mission to develop and conduct education programs for judicial branch employees. The views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Federal Judicial Center.

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Preface

The Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence is the product of a cooperative effort by the Federal Judicial Center and the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The Center began its work on a manual to help federal judges deal with scientific evidence in 1990, shortly after the Federal Courts Study Committee recommended the preparation of such a manual. This work was done in furtherance of Center education programs on the subject; the purpose of the manual is to round out the Center's education effort in the area of scientific evidence.

The Center received substantial encouragement from the Task Force on Judicial and Regulatory Decision Making of the Carnegie Commission on Science, Technology, and Government. The interest of the Carnegie Corporation in furthering judicial education in the area of scientific evidence led to the establishment by the Center of a comprehensive program to develop the manual and produce related education programs. Funding by the Carnegie Corporation enabled the Center to support distinguished outside authors to prepare the papers and to have these papers reviewed by experts in science and its use as evidence in litigation.

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