

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



*Photograph by Jennifer Cheek Pantaleon*

Larry L. Sipes, a member of the California State Bar for forty years, wrote this book as the inaugural scholar-in-residence for the Administrative Office of the Courts, the staff agency for the Judicial Council of California. He brought to bear his perspective as a former president of the National Center for State Courts, which is the principal resource for state courts as they work to improve the administration of justice. He also served as director of the Western Regional Office for the National Center for State Courts and is a president emeritus of that organization.

Mr. Sipes has also served as a special master for the Superior Court of Marin County, the director of the Select Committee on Trial Court Delay, the director of the California Constitution Revision Commission, and an adjunct professor at Hastings College of the Law.

As an advisor on judicial administration, he has consulted in several countries and in the states of California, Oregon, and Washington.

He has been recognized for his contributions to the improved administration of justice by awards from the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts, the National Association of Women Judges, and the National Center for State Courts. He received the Bernard E. Witkin Award from the Judicial Council of California.

Mr. Sipes brought to this book a personal interest that flowed from being acquainted with Chief Justice Ronald M. George and having been acquainted with his five immediate predecessors. He also has known all four Administrative Directors of the Courts. These relationships, past and present, enlivened his efforts, as did his experiences of working in or with the California court system his entire professional life.