



**Peter Thompson**

Professor of Law

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B.A., DePauw University  
J.D., University of Michigan School of Law

[Resume](#)

**Areas of legal expertise:** Trial evidence & procedure, criminal law, ADR

Professor Thompson has been a consultant and special master to the U.S. District Court in numerous cases, including the Reserve Mining environmental law case and the Consolidated Dalkon Shield and Searle Copper Seven IUD cases. His expertise in the areas of evidence and criminal law is reflected in his published works and research. Thompson has written a major treatise, *Minnesota Practice: Evidence*. He also has coauthored books on class action suits and courtroom practice, and has done extensive research and publication relating to mediation within the context of a litigated dispute.

Professor Thompson has served as Dean at Hamline University School of Law and as University Ombudsperson. Prior to joining the faculty, Professor Thompson was the reporter for the Minnesota Supreme Court Advisory Committee for Uniform Rules of Evidence. He was a law clerk for two federal district court judges and a faculty member at William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul.

He currently is chair of the Minnesota Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Evidence and was chair of the Minnesota Supreme Court Committee for Professional Responsibility in Continuing Education programs. He is a frequent lecturer at CLE programs and is a member of the ABA Criminal Justice Committee.

Professor Thompson teaches Criminal Law, Evidence, Civil Procedure, Torts, and a Seminar in evidence focusing on the jury trial.

## Selected Publications

- Disputing Irony: A Systematic Look at Litigation About Mediation, 11 *Harvard Negotiation Law Review* 43 (2006) (with James M. Coben) | [PDF](#)
- Enforcing Rights Generated in Court-Connected Mediation - Tension Between the Aspirations of a Private Facilitative Process and the Reality of Public Adversarial Justice, 19 *Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution* 509 (2004) | [PDF](#)
- Judicial Toleration of Racial Bias in the Minnesota Justice System, 25 *Hamline Law Review* 235 (2002) (with William E. Martin) | [PDF](#)
- *Evidence* (Minnesota Practice series) (West, 3d ed., 2001; 2d ed. 1992; 1st ed. 1979; and annual supplements)
- The *Haghighi* Trilogy and the Minnesota Civil Mediation Act: Exposing a Phantom Menace Casting a Pall over the Development of ADR in Minnesota, 21 *Hamline Journal of Public Law and Policy* 299 (1999) (with James M. Coben) | [PDF](#)
- Confidentiality, Competency and Confusion: the Uncertain Promise of the Mediation Privilege in Minnesota, 18 *Hamline Journal of Public Law and Policy* 329 (1997) | [PDF](#)
- *Courtroom Handbook of Minnesota Evidence* (West, 1996 and annual editions) (ed., with David F. Herr)
- Fair and Impartial Jury - Catch as Catch Can, 31 *St. Louis University Law Journal* 191 (1987) | [PDF](#)
- Challenge to the Decisionmaking Process - Federal Rule of Evidence 606(b) and the Constitutional Right to a Fair Trial, 38 *Southwestern Law Journal* 1187 (1985) | [PDF](#)
- Effect of Legal Education upon Perceptions of Crime Seriousness: A Response to *Rummel v. Estelle*, 28 *Wayne Law Review* 1247 (1982) (with Joshua Dressler and Stanley Wasserman) | [PDF](#)
- *A Class Action Suit that Worked: The Consumer Refund in the Antibiotic Antitrust Litigation* (Lexington, 1978) (with Thomas C. Bartsh and others)
- Presumptions and the New Rules of Evidence in Minnesota, 2 *William Mitchell Law Review* 167 (1976) | [PDF](#)