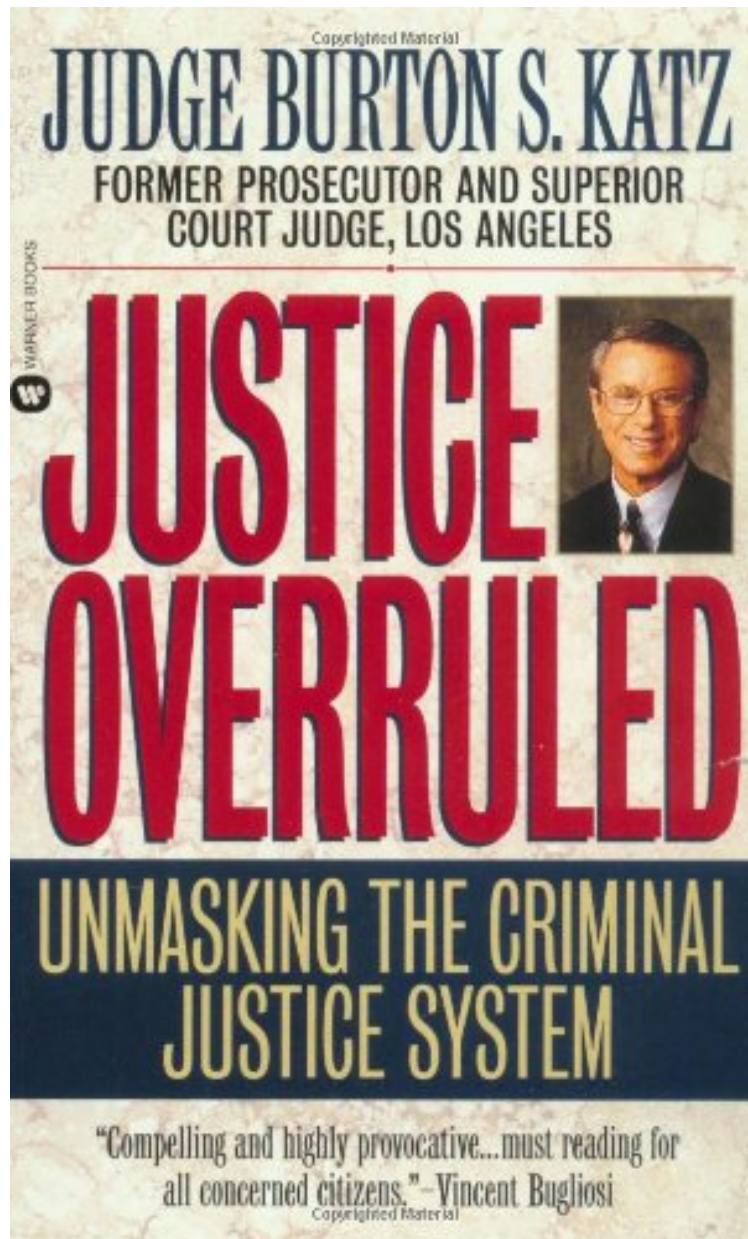


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Justice Overruled: Unmasking the Criminal Justice System

Burton S. Katz

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Judge Katz, a veteran of 25 years as a prosecutor, defense attorney, judge, and teacher, exposes the abuse and misuse of justice in this country and what can be done to fix it. He reveals why winning is everything and the truth means nothing in court; why lawyers are allowed to select the most bigoted and uneducated jurors; how racial politics control the criminal justice agenda; why judges who cannot follow basic rules of conduct stay on the bench; and more.

.com Burton S. Katz, a former prosecutor and trial judge, blames the Supreme Court for creating an atmosphere in which the hands of police are tied while known criminals are set free--not because of a dearth of evidence, but due to technicalities and a procedural maze. Katz argues that by creating legal loopholes for defense attorneys, law enforcement officers are more likely to bend the truth concerning how evidence was gathered and whether a defendant was read their rights correctly, a widespread phenomenon known as "testi-lying." This, he says, is not due to dishonesty, but to an understanding of the procedure that must be followed in order to ensure that justice prevails. Along with his critique he offers recommendations for fixing what he views as a broken system, namely by relaxing the current rules regarding gathering of evidence and obtaining confessions--indeed a case of backing up to move forward, for this was precisely the system employed before the Supreme Court effected the changes that Katz rails against. In light of recent high-profile cases involving Rodney King, O.J. Simpson, and the Menendez brothers, Justice Overruled is a timely and pragmatic approach to criminal justice reform from a 25-year insider.From Library JournalIn this indictment of the criminal justice system, a judge reviews several controversial legal decisions and recommends changes.Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. Burton S. Katz ... writes with candor and intelligence about a "broken criminal justice system." -- The New York Times Book , Allen D. BoyerFormer L. A. superior court judge Katz reveals the problems plaguing courtrooms and presents his ideas on reform measures in this hard-hitting book, which should be on the lists of any studying criminal justice and the law. From instances of judicial misconduct to crimes being perpetuated by the system, this provides many hard-hitting reflections. -- Midwest Book