# HISTORY OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT COMMITTEE ON MODEL CIVIL JURY INSTRUCTIONS

In the late spring of 2004 Chief Judge Anthony J. Scirica appointed a Committee of district judges to draft model civil jury instructions to help judges communicate more effectively with juries. He and the Committee recruited Professor Daniel J. Capra of Fordham University Law School and Professor Catherine T. Struve of University of Pennsylvania Law School to serve as Reporters for the Committee. Throughout its initial work the Committee and the Reporters received assistance from staff with the Circuit Executive's Office for the Third Circuit. The project was funded by generous contributions from the Court of Appeals and each District Court of the Third Circuit.

The Committee commenced its work in September 2004. Neither the Court of Appeals nor any Judge of that Court participated in the drafting of the Model Instructions. Since its inception the Committee has benefited from the tireless and focused efforts of many Judges of the District Courts of the Third Circuit:

Judge William G. Bassler

Judge Wendy Beetlestone (Chair)

Judge Matthew W. Brann

Judge Renée M. Bumb

Judge A. Richard Caputo

Judge Pamela Carlos

Judge Legrome D. Davis

Judge Dickinson R. Debevoise (Chair)

Judge Nora Barry Fischer

Judge Noel L. Hillman (Chair)

Judge C. Darnell Jones, II

Judge Kent A. Jordan

Judge Gary L. Lancaster

Judge Mary A. McLaughlin

Judge Maryellen Noreika

Judge Christine P. O'Hearn

Judge Louis H. Pollak

Judge Jerome B. Simandle

Judge Leonard P. Stark

The Committee owes a depth of gratitude to the Reporters who have informed its work with their expertise, their academic acumen, and their tireless commitment:

Professor Daniel J. Capra

Professor Jasmine E. Harris

Professor Edward A. Hartnett (Current)

Professor Ann C. Juliano (Current)

Professor Catherine T. Struve

Professor Charles A. Sullivan

The Committee thanks Theresa L. Burnett, Esq. and Joel McHugh, Esq. (Current) of the Circuit Executive's Office who have through the years provided invaluable support.