Shmuel Melamed

The Community Judge

The community court is a criminal court whose goal is to initiate rehabilitation procedures and reduce recidivism. This article seeks to present the changes in the duties and functioning of the judge serving in the community court. In the community court, the adversarial legal system has been replaced by a cooperative procedure. This change has consequences for the role of the community court judge, who now serves as a team manager and supervisor of the procedure. The article examines four issues: limiting the independence of the judiciary, the judge's professionalism, ethical questions, and questions related to judicial disqualification.