George Mason University
School of Law

Dean Henry N. Butler, JD, PhD

11th Annual Liability Regimes Conference

Keeping the Floodgates Shut? Mastering Accumulation and Bodily Injury Exposures in a Rapidly Changing Environment

4–5 November 2015, Rüschlikon
Law & Economics Center

• Over 40 years and over 4,000 judges
• Economics Institute for Judges
  – Basic Microeconomic Concepts
  – How markets work?
  – What happens when government interferes with markets?
  – Market Imperfections and the economic case for regulation
  – Is government regulation perfect?
The Art of Economics

“The Art of Economics consists in looking not merely at the immediate but also at the longer effects of any act or policy; it consists in tracing the consequences of that policy not merely for one group but for all groups.”

Henry Hazlitt, Economics in One Lesson (1947)

• The Law of Unintended Consequences
Litigation and Incentives

• Suit and Settlement in the American Civil Justice System

• Systematic Perversions of Justice and Due Process
  – Overcriminalization
  – Huge Discovery Costs
  – Punitive Damages
  – Third Party Litigation Financing

• The Enabling Roll of Judges in the Process
Economic Impact of Perverse Incentives in American Civil Justice

• Consumers
• Defense Community
• The Rule of Law