Newsmaker

By Mark Houser

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Stephen Fienberg

Age: 63.

Residence: Squirrel Hill

Family: Wife, Joyce; adult sons, Anthony and Howard

Occupation: Maurice Falk University Professor of Statistics and Social Science, Carnegie Mellon University

Education: Doctorate and master's degree in statistics from Harvard University; bachelor's degree in math and statistics from the University of Toronto

Background: Born and raised in Canada, Fienberg has been on the CMU faculty since 1980 and became a U.S. citizen in 1998; develops statistical tools to evaluate how well things work; recently has concentrated on forensic science, such as the use of lie detectors and fingerprinting.

Noteworthy: Fienberg, with former Attorney General Janet Reno and former FBI Director William Webster, is co-chairman of a new commission on forensic science under the American Judicature Society, a membership organization for judges and lawyers focused on justice reforms. The 38-member commission met for the first time this month in North Carolina and plans to direct independent research on how to use police lineups and photo arrays to identify suspects with the greatest accuracy.

Quote: "Our real goal is to make forensic science a science, and thereby improve the quality of justice in the country."

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