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# The Ferrante trial: A look inside the cyanide poisoning case

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Darrell Sapp/Post-Gazette

The Allegheny County Courthouse, scene of the Robert Ferrante trial in fall 2014.

By Paula Reed Ward / Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

## VERDICT REACHED

**Nov. 7: Jury finds Ferrante guilty of 1st degree murder in cyanide poisoning death of wife**

### The trial

[Day 11: Nov. 6](#)

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#### Four Quick Questions

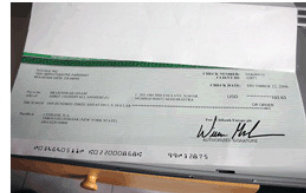
Should the New York Jets fire Rex Ryan?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

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She earned her bachelor's degree from Rutgers University in art history and labor relations, and earned her law degree from Duquesne University.



**Jeffrey A. Manning**, *judge*

Allegheny County Common Pleas President Judge Jeffrey A. Manning was appointed to the bench in 1988 and won his first 10-year elected term a year later. He has won re-election twice since.

He became president judge in 2013, following a five-year term as the administrative judge for the criminal division.

During his judicial career, Judge Manning has presided over more than 400 jury trials and 21 death penalty cases, including that of Richard Baumhammers, who was sentenced to death after a racially motivated shooting rampage in 2000 that ultimately killed six people; and Richard Poplawski, who, in 2011, was found guilty and sentenced to die for killing three Pittsburgh police officers.

Judge Manning has presided over a number of high-profile cases, including both trials of former state Sen. Jane Orié, whose first case ended in a mistrial when prosecutors discovered that defense exhibits had been doctored.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Manning served as a prosecutor for both the Allegheny County District Attorney's office and in federal court for the U.S. attorney's office.



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