

Contents

1	Introduction.....	1
1.1	Adjudicative Committee	1
1.2	Debate and Reform	5
1.2.1	Debate over the Adjudicative Function of ACs.....	5
1.2.2	The Relationship Between Judicial Independence and Accountability	8
1.2.3	Institutional Reforms of ACs.....	10
1.3	Analytic Framework: Understanding Discretion from Bounded Rationality.....	12
1.3.1	Discretion: Perspective from Law	13
1.3.2	Discretion: Perspective from Organizational Studies	14
1.3.3	Understanding Discretion from Bounded Rationality.....	15
1.4	Methodology	18
1.4.1	In-Depth Interviews.....	18
1.4.2	Case Studies	19
1.5	Structure of Book.....	20
	References.....	21
2	The Organization of the Court	25
2.1	Court President (<i>Yuanzhang</i>): High-Level Link to Outside Resources.....	26
2.1.1	Function of Court President I: High-Level Link to the Masses	27
2.1.2	Function of Court President II: High-Level Link to the Party	28
2.1.3	Conclusion.....	30
2.2	Chief Judge (<i>Tingzhang</i>): Middle-Line Managers.....	30
2.2.1	Judicial Control I: Participating in Trials	31
2.2.2	Judicial Control II: Presiding over Presiding Judge Joint Meetings.....	32

2.2.3	Judicial Control III: Signing and Issuing Judicial Decisions.....	33
2.2.4	Conclusion.....	33
2.3	Presiding Judge (<i>Shenpanzhang</i>): New Wine in an Old Bottle	34
2.3.1	Formalization of Roles	34
2.3.2	Formalization of Authority Relations.....	36
2.3.3	Formalization of Sanctions	38
2.3.4	Conclusion.....	40
2.4	Responsible Judge (<i>Chengban Faguan</i>): First-Line Worker.....	41
2.5	Conclusion	42
	References.....	42
3	Committee Goal	47
3.1	Goals, Ambiguity, and Discretion.....	48
3.1.1	Rationality, Goals, and Decision-Making	48
3.1.2	Ambiguity and Discretion	49
3.2	Goals of the AC.....	50
3.2.1	Judges and Their Goals	50
3.2.2	Concept of Organizational Goals	51
3.2.3	Goals of the ACs	53
3.3	Harmony and Justice: Rationality Analysis	57
3.4	Conclusion	61
	References.....	61
4	Information Processing	65
4.1	Information Constraints and Discretion.....	65
4.2	Information and Judicial Decision-Making	67
4.3	AC Communication	69
4.4	Standing Units.....	70
4.5	Reports and Records	73
4.6	Speech Order.....	77
4.7	Workload.....	82
4.8	Conclusion	86
	References.....	86
5	Committee Composition	91
5.1	Multiple Decision Makers and Discretion	92
5.2	Hierarchical Position.....	93
5.3	Knowledge	101
5.4	Participation of the Procurator-General	107
5.5	Conclusion	110
	References.....	110
6	Committee Procedure	115
6.1	Discretion and Process.....	115
6.2	General Legal Criteria.....	117

6.3	Criminal Cases	118
6.3.1	Capital Cases	119
6.3.2	Innocent Cases in Accordance with the Proviso of Article 13.....	122
6.3.3	Mitigated Cases	128
6.3.4	Summary	129
6.4	Civil and Administrative Cases	130
6.4.1	New-Type Cases.....	130
6.4.2	Group Action Cases (Quntixing Anjian)	132
6.4.3	Summary	139
6.5	Conclusion	140
	References.....	140
7	Discretion, Judicial Independence, and Accountability	145
7.1	Discretion and Judicial Independence	146
7.2	Discretion and Judicial Accountability	146
7.3	The Possibility of a Discussion on Judicial Independence in China.....	147
7.4	Committee Goals and Independence	154
7.5	Information Processing and Accountability	156
7.6	Committee Composition, Accountability, and Independence.....	157
7.7	Procedures and Independence.....	160
7.8	Conclusion	162
	References.....	162
8	Concluding Remarks	165
	References.....	166
	Appendices	167
	Appendix 1: Question Outline 1	167
	Appendix 2: Question Outline 2	177
	Appendix 3: Question Outline 3	182
	Appendix 4: Question Outline 4	185
	Appendix 5: AC Meeting Minutes of the BPC of G City People’s Procuratorate of G City v. Mr. Zhu	186
	Appendix 6: The Organization of the Court	190
	Appendix 7: Adjudicative Committee Case Report (Criminal Case).....	191
	References.....	192