



NEWS RELEASE

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Courts of Appeal Preserve History Through Voices of Retired Justices

More Than 70 Oral Histories Now Complete As 'Legacy' Project Debuts in California

San Francisco—The California Appellate Court Legacy Project, an oral history endeavor designed to preserve the history of the state Courts of Appeal, is nearing completion, it was announced today by Chief Justice Ronald M. George and Justice Judith L. Haller of the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District.

“The Legacy Project recounts the stories and preserves the rich judicial history of California judges, courts, and law through the voices of the justices who helped shape the development of California law in the 20th century,” stated Chief Justice George and Justice Haller. “We are extremely proud that the wisdom, experiences, and memories of our state’s appellate justices have been preserved for future generations.”

The oral history archive comprises more than 70 videotaped interviews of justices of the Courts of Appeal who are retired or are nearing retirement. Interviewers were selected from within the state appellate courts. Many former California Supreme Court justices also have participated in other interviews for historical purposes.

The interviews touch on a host of personal and professional recollections, including childhood and youth, education, law school years, judicial careers and other government service, judicial philosophies, notable opinions, concurrences and dissents, significant historical events, and the attitudes and experiences that have shaped the justices’ perspectives.

The videotapes, which average 90 minutes in length, have been transferred onto DVDs stored at the California Judicial Center Library in

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San Francisco. Further information about the collection is available at <http://library.courtinfo.ca.gov>.

The Appellate Court Legacy Project Committee of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) oversees the project. Justice Haller chairs the committee, and its members include a justice from each district of the state's Courts of Appeal: Justice Richard J. McAdams (Sixth Appellate District), Justice George W. Nicholson (Third Appellate District), Justice Timothy A. Reardon (First Appellate District), Justice Laurence D. Rubin (Second Appellate District), and Justice Steven M. Vartabedian (Fifth Appellate District). Ms. Fran Jones, Director, California Judicial Center Library, is also a member.

For more information, including a video montage of selected interview clips, please see the California Courts Web site at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/courtssofar. The project was begun as a statewide effort to commemorate the centennial of the California Courts of Appeal in 2005.

AOC staff will continue to schedule interviews with justices as they retire from the bench.

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The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.

LEGACY PROJECT INTERVIEWEES	
Jurist	Appellate District
BETTY B. DEAL	1st
JOHN T. RACANELLI	1st
ROBERT F. KANE	1st
M. O. SABRAW	1st
J. CLINTON PETERSON	1st
DONALD B. KING	1st
HARRY W. LOW	1st
ZERNE P. HANING III	1st
HERBERT W. WALKER	1st
ROBERT L. DOSSEE	1st
WILLIAM A. NEWSOM, Jr.	1st
MARCEL B. POCHE	1st
CARL W. ANDERSON	1st
JEROME A. SMITH	1st
DANIEL M. HANLON	1st
LAURENCE KAY	1st
GARY E. STRANKMAN	1st
JOANNE C. PARRILLI	1st
MACKLIN FLEMING	2nd
JAMES H. HASTINGS	2nd
ROBERT S. THOMPSON	2nd
LYNN D. COMPTON	2nd
EDWIN F. BEACH	2nd
JOAN DEMPSEY KLEIN	2nd
ARTHUR L. ALARCON	2nd
SHIRLEY HUFSTEDLER	2nd
ROBERT R. DEVICH	2nd
ROBERT FEINERMAN	2nd
HERBERT L. ASHBY	2nd
RICHARD SCHAUER	2nd
ARLEIGH WOODS*	2nd
JACK E. GOERTZEN	2nd
WILLIAM A. MASTERSON	2nd
CHARLES S. VOGEL	2nd
EDWARD A. HINZ, Jr.	2nd
DANIEL A. CURRY	2nd
STEVEN J. STONE	2nd
MICHAEL G. NOTT	2nd
ELWOOD G. LUI	2nd
REUBEN A. ORTEGA	2nd
J. GARY HASTINGS	2nd
RICHARD C. NEAL	2nd
MARGARET M. GRIGNON	2nd
HUGH A. EVANS	3rd
ROBERT K. PUGLIA*	3rd
COLEMAN A. BLEASE	3rd
KEITH F. SPARKS	3rd
CONSUELO MARIA CALLAHAN	3rd

DANIEL M. KOLKEY	3rd
JOHN G. GABBERT	4th
GERALD BROWN*	4th
F. D. McDANIEL	4th
HARMON G. SCOVILLE	4th
GORDON COLOGNE	4th
CHARLES W. FROEHLICH, Jr.	4th
WILLIAM L. TODD, Jr.	4th
HOWARD B. WIENER	4th
ROBERT J. TIMLIN	4th
GERALD J. LEWIS	4th
JOHN K. TROTTER, Jr.	4th
JAMES D. WARD	4th
DANIEL J. KREMER	4th
EDWARD J. WALLIN	4th
SHEILA P. SONENSHINE	4th
GEORGE N. ZENOVICH	5th
KENNETH ANDREEN	5th
JAY R. BALLANTYNE	5th
ROBERT L. MARTIN	5th
JAMES F. THAXTER	5th
NICKOLAS J. DIBIASO	5th
TIMOTHY S. BUCKLEY	5th
HARRY F. BRAUER	6th
CHRISTOPHER C. COTTLE	6th
WILLIAM M. WUNDERLICH	6th
* Interviewed in connection with CA Courts of Appeal Centennial	