



Donald R. Wright

Associate Justice, Division 2

December 23, 1968 to April 29, 1970

Born February 2, 1907 in Placentia, California

Died March 21, 1985 in Pasadena, California

EDUCATION

LL.D. (honorary), University of the Pacific
Sacramento, California, 1971

LL.B., Harvard Law School, 1932

B.A., Stanford University, 1929

State Bar Admission June 9, 1933

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

Chief Justice, California Supreme Court

May 1, 1970 - February 1, 1977, Appointed by Governor Ronald Reagan

Associate Justice, California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division 2

December 23, 1968 - April 29, 1970, Appointed by Governor Ronald Reagan

Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court

January 2, 1961 – December 23, 1968, by election

Judge, Los Angeles Municipal Court, Pasadena District

1953 - 1961, Appointed by Governor Earl Warren

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Barrick, Poole & Knox, Pasadena, California, 1933 - 1953

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army Air Force, World War II, 1942 - 1946

NOTE

In 1972, he wrote the majority opinion striking down the California Death Penalty and after the penalty was reinstated in 1976 by an initiative, he wrote another opinion striking it down again.