Rhode Island Superior Court Centennial 1905-2005

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GREETINGS!

As the Presiding Justice of the Superior Court for the State of Rhode Island, it is my pleasure to present you with this booklet outlining the history of the Rhode Island Superior Court, the responsibilities and jurisdiction of the Superior Court and biographies of the justices and magistrates who have served on the Superior Court since its inception in 1905. I hope you find the enclosures both informative and interesting.

JOSEPH F. RODGERS, JR.
PRESIDING JUSTICE
With the dawn of the 20\textsuperscript{th} Century, the need to restructure Rhode Island’s antiquated and overburdened Judicial System became apparent. Up to that point Supreme Court Justices alone had the constitutional authority to instruct juries. Thus, in 1902 the Rhode Island Senate sought and received an advisory opinion from the Rhode Island Supreme Court which interpreted the State Constitution so that jury trials could be conducted not only by Judges of the Supreme Court but also by Judges of legislatively created “inferior courts.” \textbf{Opinion to the Senate,} 24 Rhode Island 625 (1902).

Responding to this Opinion on April 13, 1904, the General Assembly by Resolution created a commission “to report on changes in the laws of the state necessary to carry into effect Article XII of Amendments of the Constitution.” The Commission organized on April 16, 1904, elected John H. Stiness as Chairman and Richard W. Jennings as Secretary and recommended “… that the Supreme Court shall have revisory and final jurisdiction ... and that a subordinate, original jurisdiction court, called the ‘Superior Court,’ should consist of six judges.” In addition to conducting jury trials, the Commission also recommended that equity causes be transferred to the Superior Court from the Supreme Court.
Accepting the Commission’s recommendations, the General Assembly on May 3, 1905, passed “an act revising the Judicial System of the State to conform to Article XII of Amendments of the Constitution.” Specifically, in Chapter 2, sections 4 and 5, it declared that “there shall be a Superior Court which shall consist of a Presiding Justice and five Associate Justices.” The Justices were to be elected by the General Assembly in Grand Committee and hold office during good behavior, unless removed by impeachment or by the concurrent resolution passed by 3/5 of the members of each house. The Superior Court was given exclusive, original jurisdiction of suits and proceedings in equity, petitions for divorce, actions where real estate was at issue, and actions at law for debts and damages in excess of $500. The Court also had original jurisdiction over all crimes except as provided by law, along with all appeals as provided by law, including Probate Court appeals. Chapter 2, Section 23, required that “in every case, civil and criminal, tried in Superior Court with a jury, the justice presiding shall instruct the jury in the law relating to same …” Chapter 4, Section 38, set the sessions of the Superior Court for Providence and Bristol counties at Providence (with cases periodically tried in Bristol and Woonsocket), as well as sessions for Newport, Kent and Washington Counties.

Over the years, as caseloads increased and specialized courts developed, some of the Superior Court’s original responsibilities devolved. In 1954, Worker’s
Compensation matters were transferred to the newly created Workmen’s Compensation Commission (now Worker’s Compensation Court), and in 1961, domestic relations matters were assigned to the Rhode Island Family Court.

By 1933, the method of selecting Justices of the Superior Court had changed so that the appointive authority became the Governor with the advice and consent of the State Senate. With a continued increase in the number of cases handled, the size of the Court expanded from its original six members. By 1935, there were eleven members, and by 1969, there were thirteen. Since February 1993, the Court has consisted of twenty-two Justices. Starting in 1988, Magistrates were assigned to the Court. There are presently five. In all, there have been ninety-two Justices of the Superior Court, of whom fourteen have served as Presiding Justice.

Buildings of the Superior Court

The Providence County Courthouse

The Providence County Courthouse, located between Benefit and South Main Streets, occupies the area originally reserved by the “home lots” of Roger Williams and his followers. The corner-stone of the building was once the site of the home of Stephen Hopkins, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, ten times Governor of Rhode Island, Chancellor of Brown University and signer of the Declaration of Independence. In order to preserve his house and accommodate the con-
struction of the new building, it was moved to its current address on the southwest corner of Benefit and Hopkins Streets.

At the opposite side of the site of the new courthouse, at the junction of College and Benefit Streets, once sat the Town House. This building, erected in 1723, was once the scene of public meetings and occasionally used as a courthouse.

Years later, the most prominent building to occupy the present site of the Providence County Courthouse was the Old Providence County Courthouse which was located on the corner of Benefit and College Streets. The old courthouse, with its ornate gothic design, was dedicated on December 18, 1877. However, by the early 1920's it had become an inadequate facility for the growing activity in the courts. Hence, in 1923, the General Assembly passed a resolution creating a commission to "consider the selection of the site and the preparation of preliminary plans for a new court in the City of Providence." After careful consideration, the commission chose the site on which the court now stands. The architects chosen to design the new building were Jackson, Robertson and Adams of Providence. The J.W. Bishop Company was selected as general contractor with Henry J. Woodward named as resident engineer. The commission formulated a plan allowing a large portion of the new facility to be constructed and ready for use before the old courthouse was torn down. As such, the southern portion of the building along South Main Street and the portion along Hopkins Street was started in March 1928, and
completed in February 1930. With the removal of the old building along Benefit and College Streets, the northern portion of the building was started in July 1931, and completed in July 1933. The Providence County Courthouse was formally dedicated on September 28, 1933. In 1986, it was dedicated as the Frank Licht Judicial Complex in honor of the former State Senator, Governor and Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court. A magnificent example of Georgian Colonial architecture, the building is now one of Rhode Island’s great historical landmarks.

Kent County Courthouse

For many years the Superior Court sat in the former State House on Main Street in East Greenwich. This building, constructed in 1750, displays the Wren Baroque detail of the mid-eighteenth century, as well as the federal forms of the early nineteenth century, due to its remodeling in 1804. It was last used by the Superior Court in the early 1970s and presently serves as the East Greenwich Town Hall. The Court later moved to an office building in Warwick named after James W. Leighton, a Judge of the Rhode Island District Court. A new courthouse, designed to meet the needs of the 21st century, is scheduled to open in 2006.
Newport County Courthouse

Prior to the construction of the present courthouse in 1923, the Superior Court sat on the second floor of the Colony House, one of Rhode Island's five State Houses. In order to prepare the site for the new building across the street from the Colony House, the historic Levy Gale house had to be moved to its present location at 85 Touro Street, where it now serves as the Jewish Community Center. W. Crandall Appleton was the architect, and Frank A. Stearns was the builder of the present facility.

In 1990, a third floor was added to the building. It was then named in honor of Florence K. Murray, former State Senator, Associate and Presiding Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court, and Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

Washington County Courthouse

The Superior Court first sat in West Kingston in a Richardsonian Romanesque style building constructed in 1894 and designed by Leslie P. Langworthy. It became the Courthouse Center for the Arts when a new Courthouse was constructed in Wakefield in 1988. The new building was dedicated to J. Howard McGrath, former Governor of Rhode Island, U.S. Solicitor General, U.S. Senator, and U.S. Attorney General.
Bristol County Courthouse

Built in 1817 on a cemetery, it served as one of Rhode Island’s State Houses until 1854. A striking example of Federal Civic architecture, it was altered in 1836, when brick walls were stuccoed, and again remodeled under the auspices of the WPA in 1936. The building was last used by the Superior Court in 1980, when Associate Justice Arthur Carrellas sat there.

Woonsocket Courthouse

Constructed in 1896, this building was designed by William R. Walker and Son. Richardsonian in design, it has been described as “a small scale version of a big city civic building.” It was last used by the Superior Court in the early 1980s.
WHAT DOES THIS COURT DO?

The Superior Court is the trial court of general jurisdiction in the Rhode Island unified state court system, having original jurisdiction in all felony proceedings, in civil matters where the amount in controversy exceeds $10,000, and in matters of equity. Jurisdiction is concurrent with the District Court as to civil matters with amounts at issue from $5,000-$10,000. The Superior Court also hears appeals on civil and criminal cases from the District Court. It has concurrent jurisdiction with the Supreme Court in issuing writs of habeas corpus and writs of mandamus. Any appeal from a decision rendered in Superior Court is taken directly to the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

Rhode Island's five counties are divided into four Superior Court
jurisdictions: Kent, Washington, and Newport; with Providence/Bristol counties comprising one jurisdiction.

Rhode Island does not have a single trial court, however the Superior Court is the forum for a trial by jury and a stenographic record of proceedings. Appeals from trials held in the District Court result in a trial de novo, or entirely new trial, in Superior Court.

The Superior Court also has appellate jurisdiction of decisions of local municipal and probate courts. Appeals from various boards and commissions, such as zoning board and Ethics Commission appeals, are heard in Superior Court as well as petitions to review disciplinary action imposed upon a state or local police officer by the chief of that department.

A special Gun Court, the first of its kind in the nation, heard its first gun case on September 12, 1994. This innovative program has had a dramatic impact upon the time from filing such a case in the Superior Court to disposition, a reduction from 18 months to 4 months. The court is considered a great success both in Rhode Island and across the nation.

In addition to conducting trials, the Superior Court administers the highly successful Court-Annexed Arbitration Program which speeds the disposition of certain less complex civil cases in which there is $100,000 or
less at issue. Matters such as contract disputes, personal injury claims, and property damage suits may be certified to this alternative dispute resolution program.

During an arbitration hearing, evidence is presented in an informal setting to a court-trained attorney/arbitrator who, after considering the same, makes an award in the case, usually within 10 days of the hearing. Arbitration not only speeds case resolution, but also saves litigants and taxpayers millions of dollars a year by eliminating many of the costs associated with lengthy, formal trials. It also frees courtrooms and allows judges to concentrate on more serious or complex civil and criminal cases. In 2004, 24% of all civil dispositions resulted from court-annexed arbitration.

Also administered through the Superior Court Arbitration Office is the annual "Settlement Week", held in Providence in December each year, during which civil cases may be resolved through mediation. Additional settlement weeks in the counties have been held, with much success, extending this option to cases filed outside Providence. Six percent of the year's total disposed civil cases were settled through mediation in 2004. In the decade since the inception of the program, 71% of the cases submitted to mediation were, in fact, resolved.
BUSINESS CALENDAR

In 2001 the Superior Court Business Calendar was organized. The Business Calendar handles civil actions on a separate docket, exclusively focusing on commercial litigation. The separate docket results in a faster resolution of cases through either alternative dispute resolution or streamlined court procedures.

The Superior Court Business Calendar improves the quality of decisions made in business litigation by enhancing the consistency, predictability, and accuracy of the application of principles of business law to specific disputes. The goal of an efficient specialized calendar is achieved by the uniformity of cases assigned to the Superior Court Business Calendar which are heard by Associate Justices who have a particular interest and expertise in business law issues and litigation.

The framework of the Superior Court Business Calendar allows quick resolution of disputes and has been praised by Rhode Island corporations for concentrating on their businesses, cutting litigation costs, and preserving an environment for creating and retaining jobs.

Confidence in an effective, efficient, and predictable process when claims are brought to the Superior Court Business Calendar serves as an incentive for businesses to move and stay located in Rhode Island. Both large and small busi-
nesses note that the Superior Court Business Calendar serves to send a message that Rhode Island is interested in crafting a climate which is attractive to prospective new businesses as well as those already located in the state.

**WHO RUNS THIS COURT?**

The **Presiding Justice of the Superior Court** is the administrative judge of the court. As such, the Presiding Justice has responsibility for establishing calendars, assigning judges, appointing a Superior Court Administrator and other administrative staff, and making rules for the conduct of the court's business. The Presiding Justice also appoints a Jury Commissioner and all staff for the Case Scheduling Offices, and is responsible for the Superior Court Clerk's Offices, the Arbitration Office, and the Central Registry.

The Presiding Justice of the Superior Court is assisted by 21 Associate Justices as well as five Magistrates, the Superior Court Administrator and Deputy Administrator, the Superior Court Clerks, the Jury Commissioner and various administrative staff.

Judicial appointments are made by the Governor following
recommendation of 3-5 candidates by the Judicial Nominating Commission to the Governor and confirmation by the Senate of the Governor's choice. Appointments are for life in the absence of judicial misconduct. Complaints about such misconduct are heard by the Judicial Tenure and Discipline Commission.

The Superior Court conducts its own judicial evaluation program, distributing questionnaires about judicial performance to jurors and attorneys practicing before the court.

**THE SUPERIOR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE**

There are 4 locations of the Clerk's Office throughout the state, corresponding to the 4 Superior Court jurisdictions: Providence/Bristol, Kent, Washington, and Newport (see last page of this booklet for addresses and telephone numbers). Rhode Island General Law §8-4-4 establishes a County Clerk for each of these jurisdictions.

The Clerk is the custodian of all criminal and civil cases filed in the Superior Court, a total of approximately 15,500 in 2004. The Clerk’s Office is responsible for receiving and storing all documents and other materials
that make up a Superior Court case file. The Clerk is also custodian of the Superior Court seal.

All Superior Court hearings are attended by courtroom clerks from the Clerk's Office. Computer entries are made by Clerk's Office staff for all court proceedings. Fines, costs, and civil case fees are collected and accounted for by the Clerk's Office, which also serves as a primary resource where attorneys and members of the public can gather information on Superior Court cases.

**ABOUT JURY DUTY**

The petit jury is the panel of 25-32 jurors from which 14 jurors are selected for criminal trials (12 + 2 alternates) and from which 8 are chosen for civil trials (6 + 2 alternates). Petit jurors serve for a two day period in Providence/Bristol and Kent Counties, longer if a trial for which they are sitting extends beyond two days. From July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, 14,000 jurors were summoned for petit jury duty.

The Superior Court has implemented a one day - one trial system in
Washington and Newport counties to make more efficient use of jurors' time. This system of requiring petit jurors to serve for either one day or for the duration of one trial permits those not selected to serve on a case to be dismissed at the end of their first day. Similarly, a two day - one trial system has recently been established for Providence/Bristol and Kent Counties. This program is a cost saving measure, and is also beneficial to employers, as employees are able to fulfill their civic obligation with a minimal amount of time away from work.

All Grand Jury indictments charging defendants with a crime are returned to Superior Court by the Attorney General. The Grand Jury consists of not more than 23 nor less than 13 individuals who decide whether sufficient evidence has been presented to return a true bill against a defendant. If a true bill is returned, the Attorney General must then indict, bringing charges against that defendant in Superior Court.

As an alternative to indictment, the process of information charging was created through a state constitutional amendment in 1973. This allows a defendant to be charged by an affidavit brought by a police department to the Attorney General. Charges may also be brought by the Attorney General himself/herself. Since this procedure eliminates the use of the Grand Jury, it
saves time for witnesses and police while providing safeguards to individuals charged with a crime. Grand Jury indictments are still required for the most serious felonies, called **capital offenses**, because they involve the possibility of life imprisonment: namely murder, rape, robbery, and burglary.

**USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

The Superior Court has a fully operational **video conferencing system** used to conduct video presentments during the daily criminal calendar. The video conferencing system increases safety for those who use the courthouse and provides substantial savings in inmate transportation costs from prison to court.

The Superior Court also has assistive listening devices available for the hearing impaired. These may be utilized by contacting the Administrative Office in advance.
WILLIAM H. SWEETLAND
Chief Justice* Sweetland was born on December 19, 1856. In 1878 he attended Brown University. Justice Sweetland was a member of the Pawtucket School Committee, a Clerk of the House of Representatives, and Clerk of the Court. Justice Sweetland was one of the original members of the Superior Court in July of 1905 and was elected Chief Justice of the Superior Court. He remained Chief Justice until 1909.

WILLIAM B. TANNER
Chief Justice Tanner was born on August 24, 1858. He attended Brown University and Boston University School of Law. He was an Assistant Attorney General from 1891 until 1894 and Attorney General from 1897 until 1901. Justice Tanner was one of the original members of the Superior Court in July of 1905. He became the second Chief Justice, remaining in this position until 1929.

DARIUS BAKER
Justice Baker was born on January 18, 1845. He attended Wesleyan University in 1870. Justice Baker, a veteran of the Civil War, served as a Judge of Probate Court from 1877 until 1898, and as Justice of the District Court for the First Judicial District. Justice Baker was one of the original members of the Superior Court in July of 1905.

CHARLES F. STEARNS
Justice Stearns was born on July 27, 1866. He graduated from Amherst College in 1889 and from Harvard Law School in 1893. Justice Stearns was Assistant Attorney General from 1897 until 1902 and then became Attorney General. Justice Stearns was one of the original members of the Superior Court in July of 1905.

NOTE: * The position is known today as Presiding Justice.
Biographies of Presiding Justices appear in bold/italic print.
Biographies of Present Justices appear in bold with two asterisks.
CHARLES C. MUMFORD
Justice Mumford was born on November 11, 1860. He graduated from Brown University in the class of 1881, and served as Assistant Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas from 1883 until 1884. From 1884 through 1885 he was the Clerk of the Municipal Court. Justice Mumford served as Rhode Island’s Assistant Attorney General from 1885 until 1886 and as a member of the House of Representatives from 1893 until 1894. In 1894, he was appointed United States Commissioner. Justice Mumford was one of the original members of the Superior Court in July of 1905.

GEORGE T. BROWN
Justice Brown was born on June 28, 1848. He graduated from Brown University in 1873, and from the Albany Law School in 1875. Justice Brown was a member of the House of Representatives during the years 1877 through 1878; 1887 through 1888; and 1893 through 1894. He was a Senator representing Providence from 1889 through 1891. Justice Brown was one of the original members of the Superior Court in July of 1905.

ELMER J. RATHBUN
Justice Rathbun was born on April 16, 1870. He graduated from Brown University in 1896 and Boston University School of Law in 1898. He represented West Greenwich in the Lower House of the Rhode Island General Assembly from 1897 until 1909. From 1899 until 1900 he served as the Clerk of the District Court of the Fourth District of Rhode Island. In 1900 he was elected Justice of the District Court of the Fourth District of Rhode Island, a position in which he was to serve for nine years. Justice Rathbun was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on January 22, 1909.

CHRISTOPHER M. LEE
Justice Lee was born on October 18, 1854. He graduated from Brown University in 1877. After several years practicing law in Providence, Justice Lee was elected a member of the Common Council of Providence, representing the Seventh Ward. In 1905 he was elected General Assembly Clerk of the District Court of the Sixth Judicial District of Rhode Island and then appointed to an Associate Justice of the same Court. Justice Lee was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on March 3, 1909.
CHESTER W. BARROWS
Justice Barrows graduated from Brown University and Harvard Law School. He was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on February 7, 1913.

JOHN W. SWEENEY
Justice Sweeney was appointed Associate Justice of the Superior Court on February 7, 1913.

JOHN DORAN
Justice Doran was born on November 8, 1858. He graduated from Mount St. Mary’s College in Maryland and was admitted to the Rhode Island Bar in July of 1882. After fourteen years of private practice, Justice Doran was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on February 7, 1913.

EDWARD W. BLODGETT
Justice Blodgett was born on September 27, 1857. He graduated from Yale University in 1878. Justice Blodgett served as Clerk of the Tenth Judicial District of the District Court and was City Solicitor for the City of Pawtucket. Justice Blodgett was appointed an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in 1917. On March 22, 1929, he was appointed Presiding Justice; he served until 1932.

J. JEROME HAHN
Justice Hahn was born on August 20, 1868. He attended Boston University School of Law in 1889. During his career, Justice Hahn was a member of the Providence County Court Commission. Justice Hahn was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court in 1919.

ARTHUR PRESTON SUMNER
Justice Sumner was born on April 4, 1862. He attended Brown University in 1885. Justice Sumner was a member of the Rhode Island House of Representatives from Providence from 1912 to 1920. He was Speaker of the House from 1919 until 1920. Justice Sumner was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court in 1920.
ANTONIO A. CAPOTOSTO
Justice Capotosto was born on September 23, 1879. He attended Harvard College in 1902 and Harvard Law School in 1904. Justice Capotosto served as the Third Assistant to the Attorney General from 1912 until 1915, Second Assistant to the Attorney General from 1915 until 1919, and First Assistant to the Attorney General from 1919 until 1922. Justice Capotosto was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court in 1922.

HUGH B. BAKER
Justice Baker was born on June 17, 1882. He graduated from Harvard College in 1903 and Harvard Law School in 1906. Justice Baker served on the Newport School Committee. From 1914 until 1922, he served as an Associate Judge of the District Court. On February 15, 1922, he became an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. In 1932, Justice Baker was appointed Presiding Justice of the Superior Court, a position in which he served until 1935.

HERBERT LESLIE CARPENTER
Justice Carpenter was born on September 2, 1878. He graduated from Boston University Law in 1901. He was a member of the House of Representatives from North Smithfield from 1905 until 1907. Justice Carpenter was a Town Solicitor for North Smithfield and President of the Town Council in 1917. In 1923 Justice Carpenter became Attorney General. On February 7, 1925, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

CHARLES ALBERT WALSH
Justice Walsh was born on October 19, 1876. He graduated from Brown University in 1899. He received his L.L.B. from Harvard Law School in 1902. Justice Walsh was a member of the Judicial Council, served as a Rhode Island Naval Lieutenant from 1905 until 1915 and was Secretary of the Commission to Revise the General Laws of Rhode Island from 1920 through 1923. On February 7, 1925 he became an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. Justice Walsh became the Presiding Justice in 1948 in which position he remained until 1951.
LEONIDAS POULIOT
Justice Pouliot was born on March 30, 1882. He graduated from Brown University in 1905 and Boston University Law School in 1907. In 1908, he was elected a Probate Judge in Central Falls, a position in which he served until 1910. He was re-elected Probate Judge in 1919 and remained in that position until 1929. He was a member of the Marriage and Divorce Commission in 1925. During World War I, Justice Pouliot served as Chairman of the Franco-American Division as well as with the American Red Cross. He was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on March 22, 1929.

ALEXANDER L. CHURCHILL
Justice Churchill was born on April 25, 1872. He graduated from Columbia University in 1894 and Boston University School of Law in 1898. On April 24, 1930, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

JEREMIAH EDWARD O'CONNELL
Justice O'Connell was born on July 8, 1883. He graduated from Boston University in 1906 and received an LL.B. in 1908. During World War I he served as Chairman of the Legal Advisory Board of Ward 3 Providence. He was a member of Providence Common Council from 1913 until 1919. He was a Representative in Congress from the 3rd Congressional District for the years of 1923 to 1927. In 1930, Justice O'Connell was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. He served as Presiding Justice from 1935 until 1948.

FREDERICK G. FROST
Justice Frost was born on June 18, 1872. He graduated from Brown University in 1896. From 1903 until 1907 he was Clerk of the Superior Court. Justice Frost was a member of the East Providence School Committee from 1909 until 1912. In 1926, he became a Judge of the Seventh Judicial District of the District Court. On March 20, 1931, Justice Frost was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. In 1951 Justice Frost became the Presiding Justice, a position in which he remained until 1959.
PHILIP C. JOSLIN
Justice Joslin was born on March 8, 1886. He graduated from Georgetown Law School in 1908 and became a member of the Providence School Committee in 1912. He was a member of the House of Representatives from Providence, from 1915 to 1926. He was Speaker of the House of Representatives from 1923 to 1926. On April 14, 1932 Justice Joslin was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

ALBERIC A. ARCHAMBAULT
Justice Archambault was born in Canada on February 9, 1887. He attended St. Hyacinthe College in Canada and graduated from Boston University Law School in 1908. Justice Archambault was a Town Solicitor of Warwick, serving during the sessions of 1914, 1917 through 1918, and 1925 through 1929. On January 10, 1935, Justice Archambault was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

PATRICK P. CURRAN
Justice Curran was born on February 14, 1879. He graduated from Manhattan College and Boston University Law School. He was a member of the Board of Bar Examiners for fifteen years. Justice Curran was chairman of the Alcoholic Beverage Commission from 1933 until 1935. On January 11, 1935, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

MORTIMER A. SULLIVAN
Justice Sullivan was born on June 2, 1880. He attended Columbia University Law School in 1905. He became a Judge of Probate Court for Newport and served as Mayor of that City from 1923 through 1935. Justice Sullivan became an Associate Justice of the Superior Court in 1935.

WALTER CURRY
Justice Curry was born on September 10, 1891. He graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and from Boston University Law School in 1917. During World War I he served with the 307th Signal Battalion 82nd Division in France. Justice Curry was a member of the Newport School Board from 1926 until 1932, a Probate Judge from 1923 until 1935, and a Representative from 1929 until 1935. On June 21, 1935, Justice Curry was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
ROBERT E. QUINN
Justice Quinn was born on April 2, 1894. He attended Brown University in 1915 and Harvard Law School in 1918. During World War I, Justice Quinn served in the U.S. Diplomatic Intelligence Service in England and France. He was President of the Kent County Bar Association. Justice Quinn served as a Senator from 1923 until 1925 and later from 1929 until 1933. He was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1932 and again in 1934, and was elected Governor on November 3, 1936. On April 28, 1941, Justice Quinn was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

LOUIS W. CAPPELLI
Justice Cappelli was born in Providence on April 14, 1894. He attended Brown University and Yale Law School. During World War I, he served overseas in the United States Army from 1917 to 1919. Justice Cappelli served as the Secretary of State in 1932 and was re-elected for two additional terms. He was also elected Lieutenant Governor in 1940 and re-elected in 1942. Justice Cappelli was appointed to the Superior Court on April 12, 1944. In 1959, Justice Cappelli became the Presiding Justice and remained in that position until 1966.

HAROLD A. ANDREWS
Justice Andrews was born on August 26, 1889. He attended Bowdoin College in 1912 and Harvard Law School in 1915. He served in the Mexican Border Expedition with the Rhode Island Cavalry in 1916 and in World War I with the 103rd Machine Gun Battalion, 26th Division, from 1917-1919. Justice Andrews served as an Assistant to the United States Attorney General from 1921 until 1926. He was a Law Revision Commissioner and Secretary of the Criminal Law Advisory Commission from 1927 until 1933. Justice Andrews was appointed to the Superior Court on January 9, 1948.
JOHN E. MULLEN
Justice Mullen was born on October 5, 1900. He attended Providence College and Georgetown University School of Law from which he graduated in 1923. Justice Mullen served as an Assistant to the Rhode Island Attorney General from 1935 until 1939 and from 1941 until 1948. He was President of the Kent County Bar Association, Co-Chairman of the East Greenwich Defense Council, and Chairman of the Democratic State Committee from 1943 until 1948. On January 9, 1948, Justice Mullen was appointed to the Superior Court. Justice Mullen became Presiding Justice in 1966 and served until 1972.

EUGENE L. JALBERT
Justice Jalbert was born on April 20, 1885. He graduated from the College of Montreal in 1905 and from Boston University Law School in 1910. Justice Jalbert was a member of the Executive Committee of the Rhode Island Bar. On March 5, 1951, Justice Jalbert was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

STEPHEN A. FANNING
Justice Fanning was born on April 18, 1907. He graduated from Providence College in 1928 and Georgetown University Law School in 1933. Justice Fanning was a Town Clerk and City Solicitor for the City of Cumberland. On September 25, 1951, Justice Fanning was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. In 1972, Justice Fanning became the Presiding Justice and remained in that position for one year.

THOMAS H. ROBERTS
Justice Roberts was born on January 4, 1902. He graduated from Fordham University in 1927 and Boston University School of Law in 1931. Justice Roberts served as Deputy Recorder of Deeds for Providence from 1933 until 1935, as a member of the Bureau of Police and Fire from 1935 until 1938, Director of Providence Civilian Defense Council from 1942 until 1944, and United States War Claims Commission General Counsel from 1949 to 1950. Justice Roberts was a United States District Court Judge for the District of Puerto Rico from 1950 to 1951. On September 28, 1951, Justice Roberts was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
FRED B. PERKINS
Justice Perkins was born on January 16, 1897. He graduated from Brown University in 1919 and Harvard Law School in 1922. Justice Perkins served as a Second Lieutenant in World War I. He was First Assistant to the United States District Attorney from 1926 until 1929. He also served as Secretary of the Rhode Island Bar Association from 1939 until 1949 and as President in 1944. Justice Perkins was the Moderator for the Town of Barrington from 1944 until 1952, a member of the Limited Constitutional Convention in 1951, and Chairman of the Committee on Administration of Non-Judicial Business of the Courts in 1951. On May 26, 1952 Justice Perkins was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

FRANK LICHT
Justice Licht was born on March 3, 1916. He graduated from Brown University in 1938 and from Harvard Law School in 1941. Justice Licht served as Senator from the First Senatorial District of Providence from 1949 until 1956. On February 7, 1956, Justice Licht was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

JOSEPH R. WEISBERGER
Justice Weisberger was born on August 3, 1920. He graduated from Brown University in 1942 and from Harvard Law School in 1949. He served as a member of the Republican Town Committee of East Providence, Solicitor for the Town of Gloucester from 1953 until 1956, United States Naval Officer from 1941 until 1946, and Senator during the years 1953 to 1956. On February 17, 1956, Justice Weisberger was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. Justice Weisberger became Presiding Justice in 1972 and remained in that position until 1978.

JOHN S. McKIERMAN
Justice McKierman was born on October 15, 1911. He attended Notre Dame University and graduated from Boston University Law School in 1937. He was a member of the Board of Governors, a Veteran of World War II, a Legal Advisor for the Civil Service Commission in Providence, a Clerk of the General Assembly from 1941 until 1942 and Assistant Solicitor for the City of Providence for the years of 1942 to 1943, and 1946 to 1947. He was Lieutenant Governor from 1947 through 1956. On May 7, 1956, Justice McKierman was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
FLORENCE KERINS MURRAY
Justice Murray was born on October 21, 1916. She graduated from Syracuse University and Boston University Law School. Justice Murray received honorary degrees from Rhode Island College of Education (1956), Bryant College (1956), University of Rhode Island (1963), Mt. St. Joseph’s College (1972), Providence College (1974), Roger Williams University (1976), Salve Regina College (1977), and Johnson and Wales University (1977). She served for five years in World War II with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon and the Legion of Merit. She was a Senator from Newport from 1949 until 1956. She became the first woman to be appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court and served in that position from May 7, 1956, until April 3, 1978. On April 4, 1978, Justice Murray became the first female Presiding Justice in Rhode Island. She remained in that position until 1979.

ARTHUR A. CARRELLAS
Justice Carrellas was born on October 21, 1912. He graduated from Holy Cross College in 1934 and Boston University Law School. Justice Carrellas served in the United States Army and in the Counter Intelligence Corps from 1943 until 1945. He also served as a Representative from Middletown from 1947 until 1948. On February 28, 1959, Justice Carrellas was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

WILLIAM MCALISTER MACKENZIE
Justice Mackenzie was born on June 16, 1909. He graduated from Brown University in 1931 and Harvard Law School in 1934. He served as a Judge of the Probate Court of Central Falls from 1935 until 1937, a Town Solicitor for Lincoln from 1952 until 1955, and a Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve from 1943 until 1946 with active duty in the Southwest Pacific. On April 30, 1959, Justice MacKenzie was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
JAMES C. BULMAN
Justice Bulman was born on July 24, 1911. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1933 and Fordham University Law School in 1940. Justice Bulman served as a Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1942 until 1946. He served as President of the Rhode Island Bar Association from 1963 until 1964. On June 29, 1964, Justice Bulman was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

CHRISTOPHER DELSESTO
Justice DelSesto was born on March 10, 1907. He graduated from Boston University in 1928 and Georgetown University Law School in 1939. Justice DelSesto served as Chief Accountant in the State Treasurer’s Office from 1933 until 1935, Budget Director from 1935 until 1937, State Director of Finance from 1941 to 1942, and Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States in the Anti-Trust Division of the U. S. Department of Justice from 1939 until 1940. Justice DelSesto was Governor of the State of Rhode Island from 1959 until 1961. On September 19, 1966, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

RONALD R. LAGUEUX
Justice Lagueux was born on June 30, 1931. He graduated from Bowdoin College in 1953 and from Harvard Law School in 1956. He was admitted to practice in Rhode Island in 1957, to the United States District Court of Rhode Island in 1958, the United States Court of Appeals in 1960, the Interstate Commerce Commission in 1963, and the United States Supreme Court in 1967. On June 24, 1968, Justice Lagueux was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

EUGENE F. COCHRAN
Justice Cochran was born on April 22, 1917. He graduated from Providence College in 1938 and Boston University Law School in 1947. He was a Town Solicitor for Bristol from 1949 through 1950. He was also a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy from 1941 through 1946 and was awarded a Bronze Star, a Secretary of the Navy Commendation Ribbon, and three Battle Stars. He was Representative from the City of Providence from 1955 to 1968, Deputy Minority Leader from 1965 until 1968, and Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. On June 24, 1968, Justice Cochran was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
EUGENE G. GALLANT
Justice Gallant was born on May 8, 1920. He graduated from Brown University in 1950 and Harvard Law School in 1953. Justice Gallant served as an Executive Counselor to Governor Roberts from 1955 until 1958, a Clerk of the Tenth Judiciary District of the District Court from 1958 until 1968, and a member of the Judicial Council from 1967 until 1968. He also served in the United States Air Force and Rhode Island National Guard. On July 26, 1968, Justice Gallant was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

ANTHONY A. GIANNINI
Justice Giannini was born on July 17, 1922. He graduated from Providence College in 1948 and Boston College School of Law in 1951. He served in the United States Air Force from 1942 through 1946, as counsel to Public Utilities Administrator from 1956 to 1959, and as Executive Secretary to Governor Notte from 1961 to 1962. On May 20, 1969, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. On November 21, 1979, he became the Presiding Justice of the Superior Court, remaining in that position until 1991.

FRANCIS J. FAZZANO
Justice Fazzano was born on August 14, 1913. He graduated from Yale University in 1934 and Yale Law School in 1937. He served in the military during World War I, was a member of the Rhode Island Attorney General’s Department from 1941 until 1966, President of West Warwick Town Council from 1952 until 1958, Director of the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation from 1969 until 1970, and served as Rhode Island Director of the Department of Transportation from 1970 until 1972. On March 23, 1972, Justice Fazzano was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
DONALD F. SHEA
Justice Shea was born on September 14, 1925. He graduated from Providence College and Georgetown University Law School. He served in the United States Navy from 1943 to 1946. Justice Shea was elected to the House of Representatives from East Providence, serving from 1960 until 1968. In addition, he served as Deputy Majority Leader from 1966 until 1968, and as Assistant to Governor Frank Licht from 1969 until 1972. On September 8, 1972, Justice Shea was appointed to the Superior Court as an Associate Justice.

JOHN EDWARD ORTON III
Justice Orton was born on September 19, 1931. He graduated from Brown University in 1954 and Boston University Law School in 1962. Justice Orton was a Captain in the United States Marine Corps Reserve. He served as an Associate Judge of the District Court from 1969 until 1974. On May 3, 1974, Justice Orton was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

THOMAS H. NEEDHAM
Justice Needham was born on June 30, 1922. He graduated from Providence College in 1946 and Boston University Law School in 1948, receiving an L.L.M. in 1951. During World War II he served in the United States Army in both the European and Pacific Theaters. He also served as a Delegate to the Constitutional Conventions in 1955 and 1958, as a Senator from Cranston from 1966 to 1974, and as Deputy Minority Leader from 1970 until 1974. On May 7, 1974, Justice Needham was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

JOHN P. BOURCIER
Justice Bourcier was born on March 27, 1927. He graduated from Brown University in 1950 and Vanderbilt University School of Law in 1953. Justice Bourcier was a Veteran of World War II. He also served as Probate Judge for the Town of Johnston, as Johnston Town Solicitor, Counsel for the Johnston Housing Authority, and as President of the American Trial Lawyers Association of Rhode Island. On May 7, 1974, Justice Bourcier was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
JOSEPH F. RODGERS, JR.
Presiding Justice Rodgers was born on November 18, 1941. He graduated from Providence College in 1962 and Boston University Law School in 1966. He was elected to the State Senate in January 1968 and was Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1972 until 1974 when, on May 7, 1974, he was appointed to the District Court. On November 30, 1976, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. Presiding Justice Rodgers was Chairman of the Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline from 1981 to 1987. He was a Delegate to the National Conference of the Judiciary on the Rights of Victims of Crime in 1983. He has been an Instructor of Law at Providence College and Roger Williams University. He became the Presiding Justice on June 19, 1991. He has served on the Superior Court longer than any judge in the one hundred year history of the Superior Court.

CLIFFORD J. CAWLEY
Justice Cawley was born on December 24, 1928. He graduated from Providence College in 1950, Boston College Law School in 1957, and Georgetown Law School in 1960. Justice Cawley served as a Legal Assistant to the National Labor Relations Board from 1958 until 1960, as Director of Labor for the State of Rhode Island from 1961 until 1962, and as City Solicitor for the City of East Providence from 1964 until 1965. He also served as a Representative from East Providence from 1966 until 1976, and as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee in 1976. On December 6, 1976, Justice Cawley was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

CORINNE P. GRANDE
Justice Grande graduated from Northeastern School of Law. She is a member of the American Judicature Society and the American Justinian Society and served as Special Assistant to the Rhode Island Attorney General and Chief of the Appellate Division, 1960-1967. From 1968-1969, Justice Grande was Councilwoman-at-Large on the Cranston City Council. After serving as a District Court Judge from 1969-1977, Justice Grande was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on November 14, 1977.
ALBERT E. DEROBBO
Justice DeRobbio was born on July 13, 1929. He graduated from Boston College 1951 and Boston University Law School in 1956. He served in the United States Army from 1951 until 1953. Justice DeRobbio was a member of the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General from 1967 until 1976. He was an Associate Judge of the District Court from 1976 until 1979. On January 19, 1979, Justice DeRobbio was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

DOMINIC F. CRESTO
Justice Cresto was born on July 13, 1932. He graduated from Providence College in 1954 and Boston College School of Law in 1960. Justice Cresto was a Lieutenant in the United States Army; he also served as Executive Counsel to Governor J. Joseph Garrahy; Assistant Director of the General Assembly’s Legislative Council; the Governor’s Commission on Tax Reform; the Commission on Interstate Cooperation; and the Commission to Study Arbitration in the Public Sector. In addition to his regular duties, he served on the Supreme Court Committee on the Future of the Courts; was Chairman of the Advisory Committee on the Code of Judicial Conduct; Chairman of the Superior Court Committee to Implement Court Annexed Arbitration, and past President of the Rhode Island Trial Judge’s Association. Justice Cresto was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on August 10, 1979, and retired in December 1999.

ANTONIO S. ALMEIDA
Justice Almeida was born on August 2, 1924. He graduated from Providence College in 1947 and Boston University Law School in 1950. He served in the United States Army from 1943 - 1946. Justice Almeida became a Probate Judge for the Town of Cumberland from 1950 until 1955, as well as a town Solicitor for Cumberland for the terms 1955 to 1960 and 1966 to 1968. After serving as Reading and Recording Clerk for the Legislature, and as a Representative from 1964 until 1968, Justice Almeida was an Associate Judge of the District Court from 1969 until 1980. On May 9, 1980, Justice Almeida was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
FRANCIS M. KIELY
Justice Kiely was born on July 29, 1927. He was a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and Georgetown Law School. He served in the Army Infantry Division from 1945 until 1947 and also served in the United States Air Force Reserve. On May 9, 1980, after serving eighteen years as an Associate Judge to the District Court, Justice Kiely was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

ERNEST C. TORRES
Justice Torres was born on October 6, 1941. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1963 and Duke School of Law in 1968. He served as President of the East Greenwich Town Council from 1972 until 1974 and as a State Representative from 1975 until 1980, serving as the Deputy Minority Leader. On May 9, 1980, Justice Torres was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

JAMES M. SHANNAHAN
Justice Shannahan was born on January 29, 1919. He graduated from the Catholic University of America in 1940 and Boston University Law School in 1949. From 1942 until 1945 he served in the United States Marine Corps. He served as the Cumberland Town Solicitor from 1973 until 1978 and President of the Rhode Island Bar Association from 1979 until 1980. On March 2, 1981, Justice Shannahan was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

THOMAS J. CALDARONE, JR.
Justice Caldarone was born on March 27, 1927. He is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island and graduated Boston University Law School in 1957. He served as Deputy Attorney General from 1975 until 1976 and was the Director of the Department of Business Regulation in 1977. On January 3, 1984, Justice Caldarone was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
* Alice Bridget Gibney *
Justice Gibney was born on July 1, 1947. She graduated from Rhode Island College, B.A. 1969; Catholic University School of Law, J. D. 1972; and received an LL.D. from Rhode Island College, 1986. Justice Gibney was appointed to the Workers Compensation Commission, 1982-1984. She was a member of the Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline from 1991-2003; Chairperson, 1997-2003. Justice Gibney was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on January 3, 1984.

Richard J. Israel
Justice Israel was born on December 9, 1930. He graduated from Brown University in 1951 and Yale University Law School in 1954. He served in the United States Army on active duty from 1955 to 1957. He was the Chief of the Workers Compensation Division of the Department of Labor from 1960 until 1961. He was an Assistant Attorney General from 1967 until 1971. From 1971 until 1975, he served as Rhode Island Attorney General. In addition, Justice Israel served on the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court from 1979 until 1984 and on the Advisory Committee on Children and Youth from 1978 until 1984. He is an Adjunct Professor at Roger Williams College. On January 3, 1984, Justice Israel was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

Paul P. Pedezzani, Jr.
Justice Pederzani was born on June 29, 1925. He graduated from Providence College in 1949 and Boston College Law School in 1952. Justice Pederzani served in the United States Army in the European Theater and was awarded a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart, and Meritorious Service Medal. He was Legal Counsel to Rhode Island Recreational Building Authority from 1971 to 1980, the Narragansett School Committee from 1974 until 1980, acting Judge/Clerk of the District Court from 1980 until 1983, and Solicitor for the Town of Exeter from 1962 until 1963. On January 3, 1984, Justice Pederzani was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
AMERICO CAMPANELLA
Justice Campanella was born on September 10, 1922. He graduated from Manhattan College, and Boston University School of Law in 1950. Justice Campanella served in World War II with the Army Engineers in the Mediterranean and European Theater. In addition, he was Legal Counsel to the Office of Price Stabilization, served as Legal Counsel to the Rhode Island Registry of Motor Vehicles in 1963, was appointed First Assistant to the Attorney General from 1967 to 1971, and Chairman of the East Greenwich Housing Authority from 1973 until 1981. On May 7, 1986, Justice Campanella was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

* ROBERT D. KRAUSE *
Justice Krause was born on June 10, 1945. He graduated from Amherst College in 1967 and Georgetown University Law Center in 1970. Justice Krause was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of California from 1974 to 1978, and he also served in that capacity in the District of Rhode Island from 1982 until his appointment as an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on November 20, 1986.

* MELANIE WILK THUNBERG *
Justice Thunberg was born on September 15, 1951. She graduated from Trinity College in Washington D.C. in 1973 and Suffolk University Law School in 1978. She was an Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, of the Rhode Island Department of the Attorney General and also Chief of the Division of Public Protection. In addition, she was President of the Rhode Island Trial Judge’s Association. On February 20, 1987, Justice Thunberg was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
* VINCENT A. RAGOSTA *

Justice Ragosta was born on February 12, 1924. He graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1949 and Boston College Law School in 1951. He served as a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army from 1943 until 1946, in the Pacific Theater. Justice Ragosta was the Assistant City Solicitor for the City of Providence from 1953 to 1966, and Commissioner of the Providence Bureau of Licenses from 1977 to 1978. He was an Associate Judge of the Rhode Island District Court from 1978 to 1988. Justice Ragosta belongs to the Phi Kappa Phi National Honorary Society; Beta Gamma Sigma National Honorary Society; American Bar Association; Rhode Island Bar Association; American Trial Lawyers Association; Rhode Island Trial Judges Association; American Arbitration Association; American Judicature Society; Justinian Law Society of Rhode Island, and the United States Supreme Court Historical Society. He is a past president of the Rhode Island Arthritis Foundation, and the past State President and National Trustee of the Order of the Sons of Italy in America. The Justice has also served on the Governor's Advisory Council on Social Welfare and presently serves on the American and Italian Cultural Exchange Commission. On February 12, 1988, Justice Ragosta was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

RONALD R. GAGNON

Justice Gagnon was born on June 26, 1930. He graduated from Providence College in 1952 and Harvard Law School in 1955. Justice Gagnon served in the United States Army from 1955 until 1957 and the Army Reserves from 1957 until 1963. He served as Chair of the Rhode Island Liquor Control Hearing Board from 1960 to 1965, Chair of the Rhode Island Personnel Appeals Board from 1965 to 1968, and Clerk of the Tenth District Court of Rhode Island from 1968 to 1969. On February 15, 1988, Justice Gagnon was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

JOHN F. SHEEHAN

Justice Sheehan was born on November 11, 1928. He graduated from Brown University in 1953 and Boston University School of Law in 1959. Justice Sheehan was on the Federal Criminal Procedure Revision Committee. On February 15, 1988, Justice Sheehan was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
HENRY GEMMA, JR.
Justice Gemma was born on August 5, 1941. He graduated from Villanova University in 1964 and Suffolk University Law School in 1969. Justice Gemma served as an Assistant Attorney General from 1971 until 1985, Chief of the Attorney General's Criminal Division from 1984 to 1985, and Legal Counsel to the Senate Majority Leader from 1986 until 1988. He was Vice President of the Rhode Island Trial Judges Association, the Rhode Island Bar Association, and the Judicial Tenure and Disciplinary Committee. On August 12, 1988, Justice Gemma was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

MARK A. PFEIFFER
Justice Pfeiffer was born on May 11, 1948. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1970 and Cornell Law School in 1975. He was Vice President and General Counsel of Old Colony Bank and was a member of the Bristol School Committee, Legal Counsel to the Senate Minority Leader from 1975 until 1980, and Director of Business Regulation from 1986 to 1988. On October 27, 1988, Justice Pfeiffer was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

MAUREEN MCKENNA GOLDBERG
Justice Goldberg was born on February 11, 1951. She graduated from Providence College in 1973 and Suffolk University Law School in 1978. Justice Goldberg served as an Assistant Attorney General from 1978 until 1984, Town Solicitor for South Kingstown from 1985 until 1987, and she also served as Town Solicitor for Westerly from 1987 until 1990. In addition, she served as acting Town Manager for the Town of Westerly in 1990, and Special Legal Counsel to the Rhode Island State Police. On July 9, 1990, Justice Goldberg was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.
Justice Patricia A. Hurst was born on February 19, 1951. She graduated from Coe College in 1972 and Suffolk University Law School in 1978. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Justice Hurst served as Chair of the Providence Zoning Board of Review. She also served as legal counsel to the City of Providence School Committee and to the Providence Civic Center Authority. Justice Hurst is a former member of the American Arbitration Association Panel of Arbitrators, the American Bar Association, the American Trial Lawyers Association, the Rhode Island Trial Lawyers Association and the Rhode Island Women Lawyers Association. She is a recipient of the Rhode Island Trial Lawyers’ Judicial Merit Award; recipient of certificates of special recognition from the United States Senate and House of Representatives and co-author of the Rhode Island Model Civil Jury Instructions. She also serves as a deputy district director for the National Association of Women Judges. Justice Hurst was appointed as an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on July 18, 1990.

Justice Darigan was born on September 21, 1942. He graduated from Providence College in 1964, Suffolk University Law School in 1971, and the University of Rhode Island (M.A.) in 1974. Justice Darigan served as a Captain in the United States Army Military Intelligence Corps from 1965 until 1967. He served on the Providence City Council from 1970 until 1974 and the Providence Charter Commission from 1980 to 1981. In addition, Justice Darigan was Legal Counsel to the Department of Transportation from 1975 until 1978 and Legal Counsel to the Governor's Office on Energy from 1978 until 1982. On January 26, 1984, Justice Darigan was appointed an Associate Judge of the District Court. He was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on June 28, 1991.
ALTON WILEY
Justice Wiley was born on June 14, 1929. He graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1951 and Boston University Law School in 1956. He served in the United States Army from 1951 until 1953 and the Reserves from 1953 until 1979. Justice Wiley served as Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Rhode Island from 1963 until 1967 and also as Assistant Public Defender from 1971 until 1972. He was appointed to the District Court on June 4, 1980. On June 28, 1991, Justice Wiley was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

* JUDITH COLENBACK SAVAGE *
Justice Savage was born on October 9, 1957. She graduated from Wellesley College in 1979 and Case Western Reserve University School of Law in 1982. She served as a Law Clerk in the United States Court of Appeals, Third Circuit, and was Executive Counsel to Governor Bruce Sundlun from 1991 until 1993. On February 3, 1993, Justice Savage was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

* MICHAEL A. SILVERSTEIN *
Justice Silverstein was born on September 28, 1933. He graduated from Brown University in 1956 and Boston University Law School in 1959. Justice Silverstein was a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, Woonsocket Industrial Development Corporation, and the Board of Trustees for Roger Williams University. Justice Silverstein was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on September 23, 1994.

* EDWARD C. CLIFTON *
Justice Clifton was born on March 6, 1945. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of California, Los Angeles, Law School. From 1966 until 1968, he served in the United States Army. He served on the Providence Municipal Court from 1979 until 1984 and was appointed to the Rhode Island District Court in 1993. He was a Providence City Solicitor from 1985 until 1991, and is a member of the Rhode Island Urban League. Justice Clifton was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on September 23, 1994.
Justice Vogel was born on March 2, 1947. She graduated from Roosevelt University in 1971 and New England School of Law in 1975 and was honored by the law school at its annual Dean’s Reception in 1999. Justice Vogel is past President of the Roger Williams chapter of the American Inns of Court. She has served on the adjunct faculty of Roger Williams University School of Law. Before taking the bench, Justice Vogel was an officer of the Rhode Island Bar Association and sat on its Executive Committee and House of Delegates; served on the Supreme Court Committee on Unauthorized Practice of Law; and on the Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline. She is a candidate for a master’s degree in judicial studies at the National Judicial College. Justice Vogel was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on September 23, 1994.

Justice Fortunato was born on January 31, 1942. He graduated from Providence College in 1965 and George Washington University Law School in 1970. Prior to his appointment to the Superior Court on September 23, 1994, Justice Fortunato practiced law, with an emphasis on constitutional litigation. From 1976 until 1980, he served in the Rhode Island Senate. He has published articles in such scholarly journals as the Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics, the Roger Williams Law Review and the Howard Law Journal; his essays and reviews have also appeared in national publications including In These Times, Dissent, and Legal Affairs.

Justice Williams was born on August 24, 1940. He graduated from Boston University, Boston University School of Law, and received a Masters in Taxation from Bryant College. He served as a Captain in the United States Army from 1962 until 1967. Justice Williams served as Town Moderator for Richmond and as a Judge of the Probate Courts for the Towns of Hopkinton and West Greenwich. He also served as Town Solicitor for the Towns of Coventry, West Greenwich, Hopkinton, Barrington, Bristol, and South Kingstown. On December 15, 1995, Justice Williams was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

Justice Thompson was born on August 8, 1951. She graduated from Brown University in 1973 and from Boston University Law School in 1976. Justice Thompson served at Rhode Island Legal Services from 1976 to 1979, served as Assistant City Solicitor of Providence from 1980 until 1982, and was later appointed to the District Court on March 10, 1988. On November 13, 1997, Justice Thompson was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

Justice Indeglia was born August 31, 1941. Justice Indeglia graduated from Boston College in 1963, and the University of Michigan Law School in 1966. He served in the Rhode Island Air National Guard. Justice Indeglia has also served as Assistant Town Solicitor for South Kingstown from 1971 until 1973; Probate Judge for South Kingstown from 1971 to 1973; South Kingstown Town Council from 1977 to 1984, President from 1981 to 1984; State Representative from 1984 until 1989, Deputy Minority Leader from 1988 to 1989. He is an adjunct Professor of Law at Roger Williams University Law School. He was appointed to the District Court in 1989. Justice Indeglia was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on February 21, 2000.
* STEPHEN P. NUGENT *
Justice Nugent was born on January 23, 1948. He graduated from Brown University in 1969, Boston University Law School in 1973, and received an L.L.M in 1975. Justice Nugent served as a Law Clerk for the Rhode Supreme Court, the Special Assistant Attorney General from 1974 until 1979 and the Chief Public Defender for the State of Rhode Island. On March 20, 2000, Justice Nugent was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

* EDWIN J. GALE *
Justice Gale was born on April 8, 1943. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1965 and the University of Santa Clara Law School in 1972. Justice Gale served in the United States Navy from 1961 to 1970. A trial attorney with the United States Department of Justice for nearly thirty years, he served as United States Attorney for the District of Rhode Island from 1994-1995. Justice Gale was appointed Associate Justice of the Superior Court on February 8, 2001.

* SUSAN E. MCGUIRL *
Justice McGuirl was born on September 10, 1952. She graduated from Rhode Island College and Suffolk University Law School. Justice McGuirl was Deputy Attorney General from 1980 to 1984; Chief Judge of the Providence Housing Court from 1987 to 1992; Barrington Town Solicitor from 1985 to 1993, and Town Solicitor of West Warwick from 1993 to 2001. She received the Dorothy Lohman Community Service Award from the Rhode Island Bar Association in 2001. Justice McGuirl was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on July 11, 2001.
* DANIEL A. PROCACCINI *
Justice Procaccini was born on September 26, 1952. He graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1974 and Suffolk University Law School in 1977. He was a Town Solicitor for East Greenwich from 1989 until 1992, a Town Solicitor for Johnston from 1998 to 2001, and Legal Counsel for the Senate Finance Committee from 1992 until 2000. Justice Procaccini became board certified as a trial advocate by the Board of Trial Advocacy in 1995. He was President of the Rhode Island Trial Lawyers Association from 2000 to 2001. In 2005 he received the Giannini Award from the Rhode Island Legal/Education Partnership for outstanding contributions to law related education. Justice Procaccini was appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court on July 23, 2001.

* JEFFREY A. LANPHEAR *
Justice Lanphear was born on May 27, 1956. He graduated from Providence College in 1978 and New England School of Law in 1981. He served as legal counsel to the Rhode Island Senate Minority Leaders from 1982 through 2003. On April 8, 2003, Justice Lanphear was appointed an Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court.

* ALLEN P. RUBINE *
* WILLIAM J. MCATEE *
Magistrate McAtee was born on September 12, 1947. He graduated from Providence College in 1970, received a Masters Degree from Providence College in 1973, and graduated from Suffolk University Law School in 1978. Magistrate McAtee was a State Representative from Cumberland and served as the Superior Court Administrator from November 1, 1989 to October 1, 1991. Magistrate McAtee was appointed a Magistrate of the Superior Court on October 3, 1991.

* JOSEPH A. KEOUGH *
Magistrate Keough was born on April 8, 1941. He graduated from Providence College in 1962 and Suffolk University Law School in 1970. After serving in the United States Navy, Magistrate Keough was Chief Judge of the Pawtucket Municipal Court, a member of the Pawtucket Zoning Board, Chairman of the Pawtucket Board of Canvassers, Chairperson of the Pawtucket Juvenile Hearing Board, and counsel for the Rhode Island Treasurer’s Office. Magistrate Keough was appointed as a Special Magistrate of the Superior Court on September 12, 1997.

* PATRICIA L. HARWOOD *
Magistrate Harwood was born on February 20, 1960. She graduated Boston College in 1982 and Suffolk University School of Law in 1985. Magistrate Harwood was a Law Clerk for Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Joseph R. Weisberger and Magistrate Jacob Hagopian in U. S. District Court. She was the Chief Judge of the Pawtucket Municipal Court. On December 28, 2000, Magistrate Harwood was appointed General Magistrate of the Superior Court.
* SUSAN L. REVENS *
Magistrate Revens was born on February 8, 1952. She graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1974 and Suffolk University Law School in 1977. Magistrate Revens was affiliated with Rhode Island Legal Services, and was Assistant Administrator of the Superior Court, later Deputy Administrator. On July 18, 2001, Magistrate Revens was appointed Administrator/Magistrate of the Superior Court.

* GORDON M. SMITH *
Magistrate Smith was born on September 15, 1951. He graduated from Rhode Island College in 1977 and Suffolk University Law School in 1987. Magistrate Smith served as Assistant Town Solicitor for the Town of West Warwick in 1988 and from 1995 to 2003. He was also the Deputy Legal Counsel to the Rhode Island Senate from 1991 to 1998. Magistrate Smith was appointed a Magistrate of the Superior Court on November 15, 2004.