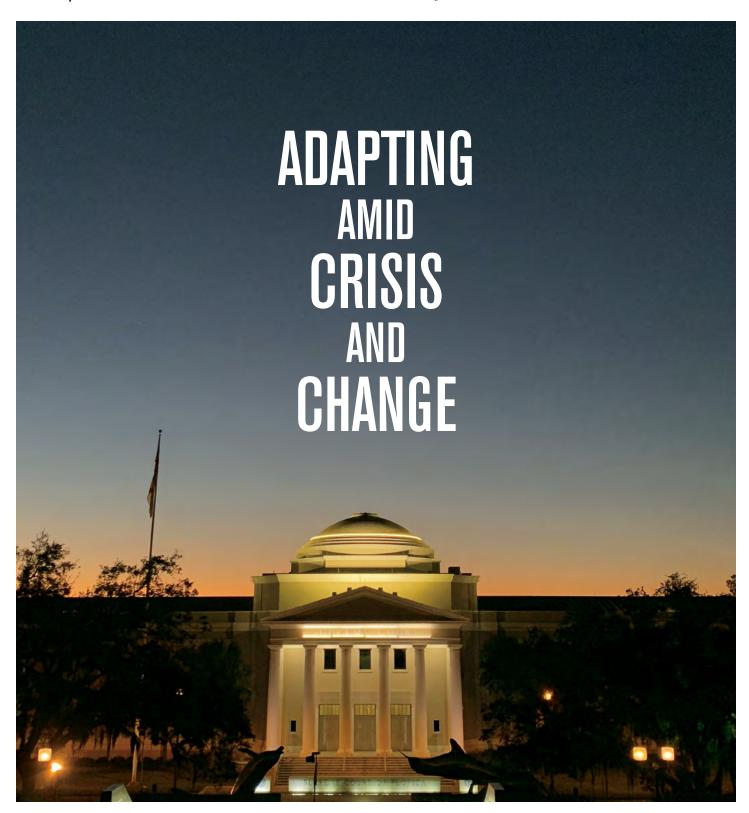
Historical Review

SPRING / SUMMER 2021

A Publication of THE FLORIDA SUPREME COURT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

he past year posed several challenges to all of us. I hope you and your family are well and that 2021 brought a welcomed new beginning.

This issue of the *Historical Review* focuses on the great amount of change the Supreme Court of Florida has sustained in the past two years. Since Justices Pariente, Lewis, and Quince retired in January 2019, the Court has essentially been in constant transition. Shortly after Justices Barbara Lagoa, Robert Luck, and Carlos Muñiz



Photo by The Workmans wearetheworkmans.com

were appointed to replace the retiring Justices, Justices Lagoa and Luck were appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Not long after, the COVID-19 crisis set in. As a result, the Court was left with only five Justices for an extended period of time.

In the summer of 2020, Governor DeSantis appointed John Couriel on the Court. Later, Governor DeSantis appointed Judge Jamie Grosshans to the Court, making her the fifth woman to serve on the Supreme Court of Florida. Meanwhile, former Justice Lagoa was a finalist for the vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court that was created by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's passing. The Florida Supreme Court Historical Society is excited to formally introduce Justices Couriel and Grosshans.

We also remember three former Justices: Justice Gerald Kogan, who served as Chief Justice from 1996-1998, Justice Joseph Hatchett, who was the first African-American to serve on the Florida Supreme Court, and Justice James Alderman, who served on the Court from 1978 through 1985. In addition, we remember Historical Society Trustee Joseph R. Boyd, the son of former Justice Joseph Arthur Boyd, Jr.

Thanks for reading! As always, if you are interested in contributing to a future issue, please contact me at editor@flcourthistory.org.

MKalmanson

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Florida Supreme Court Historical Society

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The Florida Supreme Court Historical Society works to save and maintain for future generations the records of the people and events that have shaped the evolution of Florida's court system from the early 1800s, through the 21st Century, and beyond. The Society is committed to making sure people understand the importance of a strong, independent judiciary in our governmental balance of power. The Society's two-fold mission is to (1) educate the public about the critically important work of the courts in protecting personal rights and freedoms, as well as in resolving the myriad of disputes that arise within the state, and (2) preserve the rich history of Florida's judicial system.

This publication has been sponsored by the members of the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society.

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The Honorable Rosemary Barkett



Judge Rosemary Barkett is a judge on the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in The Hague. Judge Barkett is the only individual to have served as a state trial court judge, a state appellate court judge, chief justice of a state supreme court, a federal appellate court judge, and now also a judge on an international tribunal. During her 30-year judicial career, she has been engaged in improving court administration, access to justice, and promoting judicial education.

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The Honorable Robert W. Lee



Judge Robert W. Lee received his law degree with honors from the University of Florida, where he was a Senior Editor on the Law Review. While in practice, he received the Individual Attorney Support Award from Legal Aid of Broward County for pro bono work involving mental health issues. Judge Lee has more than 500 published legal decisions and has presided over more than 350 jury trials. On the bench since 1998, he is currently an acting Circuit Judge and Administrative Judge of the Broward County Court.

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Samantha Lowe is currently serving as law clerk to the Honorable Adam S. Tanenbaum at the Florida First District Court of Appeal. She was an early graduate from the Florida State University College of Law in the fall of 2019 and is licensed to practice law in both Florida and Illinois. Her interests include criminal justice reform, civil rights, constitutional law, and appellate law.

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Dr. Steven R. Maxwell has worked more than 35 years in state and local government, education, and public affairs broadcasting. He has served as a public **Judicial Qualifications** Board of Bar Examiners (FBBE). He continues to for the FBBE as well as a member of The Florida Bar's Statewide Unlicensed Practice of Law Committee.

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Historical Society Trustee Renee E. Thompson is an attorney-mediator with Upchurch, Watson, White & Max, mediating disputes in Florida and federal courts. She serves as Fifth Circuit Representative on The Florida Bar Board of Governors, and is a former President of both The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division and the Marion County Bar Association. She also served as inaugural chair of The Florida Bar Leadership Academy.



member on both the Florida Commission and the Florida serve as an emeritus member

Hala Sandridge



Historical Society Trustee Hala Sandridge is board certified in appellate practice and chairs Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney's appellate practice group. She has handled hundreds of state and federal civil appeals. She is immediate past president of The Florida Bar Foundation and a past chair of The Florida Bar Appellate Practice Section. She currently serves on the Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission.

Craig Waters



Historical Society Trustee Craig Waters was executive assistant to Chief Justice Gerald Kogan from 1996 to 1998. He is the current director of the Florida Supreme Court's Public Information Office.

Cover Photo by Tori Lynn Schneider

From the President

elcome to the Spring/Summer issue of the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society's Historical Review magazine. This issue focuses on the extensive changes that the Florida Supreme Court has experienced over the last several years and how the changes have impacted the Court. Three Justices retiring, three new Justices appointed, two Justices tapped to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, one former Justice on the shortlist of U.S. Supreme Court nominees, and finally, two new Justices were appointed in 2020. It has been quite the whirlwind of events on the Florida Supreme Court, catching national headlines and attention along the way. We hope that you enjoy the articles and features regarding

this unprecedented time for the Court. Many thanks to Historical Society Trustee and magazine editor Melanie Kalmanson for her steadfast dedication to the written word and the Society's mission.

As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, hopeful that all can return to normal, the Historical Society has also seen some changes. We hosted our first virtual annual event, *A Supreme Evening 2021*, on January 28, 2021, and welcomed over 1,000 participants for the program. The Society's keynote speaker, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and presidential historian Jon Meacham, gave a powerful and moving perspective on leadership,

the recent presidential election, and the impact of our presidential leaders throughout history. Justice Jamie R. Grosshans and Justice John D. Couriel provided insight into their backgrounds and inspirations during their interviews. The event provided continuing legal education credits and continuing judicial education credits, a long-time goal for the Society and an added benefit for all who attended.

The Society also bestowed its Lifetime Achievement Award on Justice Joseph Hatchett at the event—a well-deserved honor for a Justice who changed the Court and our State for the better. Sadly, Justice Hatchett passed away a few short months after receiving the award at 88. The Florida legal community suffered another loss when Justice Gerald Kogan passed away at the age of 87 on March 4, 2021. Justice Kogan worked tirelessly to improve the Court system and the State of Florida and left a lasting legacy of his work. On June 10, 2021, we learned

the sad news that Justice James Alderman had passed at the age of 84. Justice Alderman served on the Court from 1978 to 1985 before returning to his family's cattle ranch in Okeechobee, Florida. All three Justices made lasting contributions to the Court, the State, and to all those they influenced. They will be forever remembered.

For those who were unable to join us live, a recording of *A Supreme Evening 2021* is still available for members to view and obtain CLE or CJE credit online. Please visit the Society's website, www.flcourthistory.org, for further details.

Our supporters generously donated their time and financial assistance to the Society to ensure that the event was a success. The Trustees are deeply grateful to those

individuals and firms who pledged support during uncertain times.

The Society continues to develop and expand our social media presence, something made more critical during the pandemic. Please be on the lookout for posts on the Society's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FLSupremeCourtHistoricalSociety and on Twitter at @FlCourtHistory. Moreover, the Society is continuously seeking articles, artifacts, and member volunteers for our projects. Please contact the *Historical Review* editor, Melanie Kalmanson, should you wish to submit an article for consideration.

As my time as President of the Society comes to a close, I want to thank the Society's Board of Trustees for their unwavering dedication to the Society. I would also like to thank our Executive Director, Mark Miller, and his team for their hard work. It has indeed been an honor to serve the Society and its members in advancing our mission. Although much changed, not only on the Court but in our world as we knew it, the Society remained steadfast in pursuing its goals and serving our members. With your help and support, we will continue to do so. Please enjoy the magazine.

Sincerely,

Jonathan F. Claussen, President FLORIDA SUPREME COURT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Pandemic and Beyond

By Chief Justice Charles T. Canady

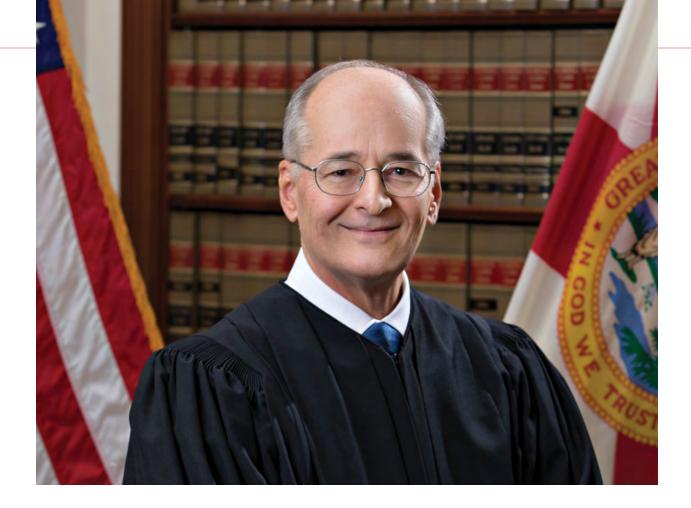
he Florida Supreme Court and the rest of Florida's court system—as this is written at the end of April—have been through more than 13 months of operation under the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. This has been an extraordinary journey with twists and turns that none of us could have predicted. All of us who work in the system of justice have had our lives changed in dramatic ways. And for some, the pandemic has taken a heavy toll through serious illness or through the loss of friends and loved ones. We all have reason to be grateful that, with the widespread availability of highly effective vaccines, we can now truly see light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel.

During the pandemic, the Florida Supreme Court building has been closed to the public, but we have nonetheless very much remained open for judicial business. Throughout the pandemic, our Court and the district courts have continued with the consideration of appellate cases without significant interruption through the use of remote technology. Although we are eagerly looking forward to returning to in-person oral arguments soon, the remote proceedings have been conducted very successfully. In our Court, in the course of the numerous oral arguments we have heard, we never experienced

any technical difficulties that significantly affected the proceedings.

Remote technology has also enabled our trial courts to continue the work of justice. Since the beginning of the pandemic more than 2.8 million cases have been resolved in our county and circuit courts. Unfortunately, however, a large backlog has developed because of our inability to conduct jury trials except on a very limited basis. Our trial courts have, to a large extent, been hamstrung by constraints—imposed by the requirements of public safety—on trying cases before juries. As we emerge from the pandemic, the backlog will pose a challenge of unprecedented magnitude in the history of Florida's judiciary. We are working to marshal additional resources and to implement strategies to help the trial courts address this mountain of cases as expeditiously as possible. The top priority is returning to full—and hopefully, expanded—capacity in trying criminal cases that have been unavoidably stalled during the pandemic.

Most of us have been surprised by the rapid development of highly effective vaccines as well as the swift administration of vaccinations in Florida and throughout the United States. It is not unreasonable to hope that as more and more people are vaccinated, we will see an "exponential collapse" in the rate of virus



transmission. We are soon approaching the point when all members of the community who are eligible for vaccination (individuals 16 years and over) will have had an opportunity to become fully vaccinated. Indeed, I suspect that we may well have come to that point by the time you are reading this. When we have reached that point—absent some unexpected adverse development—I anticipate that we will be able to return to more normal operations in our courts.

As I have already acknowledged, during the pandemic we have seen that much judicial work can be accomplished through the use of remote technology. And as we move beyond the pandemic, I fully expect that the use of remote technology will remain an important element in our ongoing efforts to provide justice in a way that is accessible, efficient, cost-effective, and fair for all parties. The use of remote technology during the pandemic has been enabled by various emergency administrative measures. Currently, extensive efforts are underway to evaluate potential rules changes that would regularize the use of remote technology in the postpandemic period. As everyone who is familiar with our body of rules will understand, this is a very complex task. But it is an undertaking that is well worth the effort, an undertaking that I believe will help lay the foundation for a more effective and responsive court system in Florida. Of course, there will be a full opportunity for input from members of The Florida Bar and public as the Court considers the adoption of rule changes.

Finally, I want to especially acknowledge two people who have provided indispensable leadership in helping chart the path for Florida's courts during the difficult days of the pandemic. For their tireless efforts to keep our court system moving forward, we all owe a debt of gratitude to State Courts Administrator Lisa Kiel, along with her team, and to Circuit Judge Lisa Munyon, Chair of the Continuity Workgroup, along with all the members of the workgroup. Our system has faced unprecedented administrative challenges during these times—evidenced by the flurry of administrative orders that have issued—and I never would have been able to do my job as chief administrative officer of the judicial system without their wise guidance and unflagging support. They, along with the chief judges of our circuit and district courts, have made up an outstanding team. I could not have asked for a more talented and committed group of people to work with.

I can't wait to see you all at the Society's dinner in January 2022. I am sure that it will be an especially joyful occasion for everyone who is there.

Justices Luck and Lagoa Appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

By Samantha Lowe

he Florida Supreme Court has endured more change in the last two years than it has in almost its entire history. After the mandatory retirement of Justices Barbara J. Pariente, R. Fred Lewis, and Peggy A. Quince in January 2019, three new members were quickly appointed in their place—Justices Barbara Lagoa, Robert J. Luck, and Carlos Muñiz. Little did the Court know, though, that it would bid two of those members adieu by the end of that same year. On October 15, 2019, former President Donald J. Trump nominated Justices Lagoa and Luck to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and they soon left the Court to take their places on the federal bench.

Their appointments to the Florida Supreme Court were historical on their own. This was the first time in the Court's history that three Justices left the bench at the same time and the first time in 100 years that three Justices joined the Court all at once. Justice Lagoa also became the first Hispanic female Justice to sit on the high court, while Justice Luck became the youngest sitting Justice.

Justices Lagoa and Luck's rapid ascension to the Eleventh

Circuit proved the most remarkable. Having been on the Florida Supreme Court for just under a year, they served two of the shortest terms in the Court's history.

During Justice Luck's joint Investiture with Justice Muñiz, Judge Rodalfo Ruiz of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida humorously welcomed everyone to the "Annual Robert Luck Investiture"—acknowledging that in the past six years, Justice Luck had been sworn in as an Eleventh Judicial Circuit judge, Third District Court of Appeal judge, and Justice on the Supreme Court of Florida. And he had just been nominated by President Trump to serve on the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals—before his own Investiture to the Florida Supreme Court could take place.

Their legal careers began at different junctures. Justice Lagoa graduated from Columbia Law School and transitioned into private practice shortly thereafter. Justice Luck graduated from the University of Florida's College of Law and then accepted a two-year clerkship with the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

Their paths ultimately crossed when they became

"We are proud of these two Floridians who have earned the respect of many for being great jurists and public servants. They will serve our nation well."

GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS

TOP: Judge Barbara Lagoa's (center) fatherin-law, Senior Judge Paul C. Huck (left) for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida swore her in to serve on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. She was accompanied by her husband, Paul C. Huck, Jr. (right). BOTTOM: Chief Judge Ed Carnes (left) of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit looks on as his Judicial Assistant Blanche Baker (right) assists Judge Robert Luck (center) with finalizing paperwork just after Judge Carnes conducted Judge Luck's swearing in to the Eleventh Circuit.





colleagues on Florida's Third District Court of Appeal, where Justice Lagoa served for thirteen years, including a term as Chief Judge. From that moment on, their paths to the federal bench were forged together. They were appointed to the Florida Supreme Court within five days of one another. Both were nominated to the Eleventh Circuit on the same day, and their Senate confirmations were only one day apart. During her Investiture to the Florida Supreme Court, Justice Lagoa recognized her "new colleagues," but made sure to pay tribute to her "old colleagues" as well, with a special nod to Justice Luck in particular.

By the time of her appointment to Florida's highest court, Justice Lagoa had devoted thirteen years of service to the State's judiciary. She had presided over almost 11,000 cases and authored over 400 opinions. Justice Luck had spent only six years on the bench but had experience as both a trial and appellate level judge and had served in all three branches of government.

As Governor DeSantis explained shortly after receiving news of the pair's nomination to the federal bench:

President Trump has demonstrated great judgment in nominating Justices Barbara Lagoa and Robert Luck to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. I appointed these two Justices to the Florida Supreme Court for their demonstrated understanding of the Constitution and the appropriate role of the judiciary. We are proud of these two Floridians who have earned the respect of many for being great jurists and public servants. They will serve our nation well.

For ease of publication and reading, footnotes have been removed from this article. The full version, with footnotes, may be viewed on the Historical Society's website.



An Interview with Florida Supreme Court Justice John D. Couriel

By Raul Alvarez

ast year, I had the opportunity to have a conversation with then-newly appointed Justice John D. Couriel of the Supreme Court of Florida. As fellow graduates of Columbus High School, we discussed his Cuban-American heritage and his impressive career leading up to his appointment to the Court.

Raul: What initially drew you to the law?

Justice Couriel: I don't remember a time when I wasn't drawn to the law. My paternal grandfather in Cuba was a lawyer, and I think there was a part of me that wanted to restore in some way what was lost, or at least to connect with what was lost, and so there was that sort of root of the interest. It always really interested me as far back as I can remember-the process of selfgovernance and democracy, lawmaking, and the rule of law as a concept. That interest developed as I traveled more. I think you go to a lot of places where the rule of law is not as cherished or is not as well-grafted onto the social structures that govern life and you see what life in those places looks like and it doesn't look like life in the United States-not the kind of life any one of us would want to have.

Raul: Tell me more about your paternal grandfather. Was he able to continue practicing law in the United States, or is that something he left behind?

Justice Couriel: No, he wasn't. My father came to this country as part of Operation Pedro Pan on September 25, 1961, as an unaccompanied minor. His mother and father could not leave Cuba, so my father, his older brother, and his older sister spent six years in programs operated by the Catholic Church here in South Florida. I'm sure the experience impacted people in different ways, but in the case of my father, he developed an intense gratitude toward the Catholic Church and toward

America. My father is an extremely American guy.

My mother came, also in 1961, from Cuba but she came with her whole family, and that story too is full of sacrifice. My maternal great uncle, a man named Jack Gutierrez, had the foresight to open a branch of his travel agency in Coral Gables before the Revolution in the 50s. When the Revolution came, he already had a foothold here and basically my mom's whole family wound up working at the travel agency. They lived all together in a house that he had bought. I think there were 15 or 16 people living in their house at one point, and they sacrificed and worked hard. My mom was one of four kids, and my uncle, Jack, had six kids, so it's ten kids in a house with two sets of parents and others, including grandparents.

My maternal grandfather had come to college in the United States. He went to Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina and so by 1950-51, he was probably in his early 20s, a college graduate from a U.S. college, fully fluent in English, and he worked at the Bank of Boston in Havana. My maternal grandmother was from a comfortable family and she expected a life of comfort. Well, guess what, the Revolution came when they were very young adults with young kids. They lost everything. Next thing you know, this guy who had gone to college in the United States and who was on track to have a career in finance in Cuba, now needs to do whatever he can to provide for his family.

Raul: What is the importance of the Cuban-American identity on the Court to you?

Justice Couriel: I think the most important identity on the Court is the American identity. The shared project that the seven justices have in standing for the rule of law and getting it right. It gives me a lot of pride that the Court draws from people's experiences from different backgrounds. That's good.







TOP: Justice Couriel's maternal grandparents, the Urtiagas, were fortunate to come to the United States as a family with their four children, including Justice Couriel's mother, Maria Victoria Urtiaga (farthest on the right). Shortly after emigrating from Cuba, the family enjoyed the quintessential Miami pastime: a day at the beach.

MIDDLE: During Operation Pedro Pan, unaccompanied minors were allowed to enter the United States from Cuba. Among them was Justice Couriel's father, John L. Couriel. A young John L. Couriel (fourth from the left) poses with his friends in front of the historic Miami Seaquarium.

BOTTOM: Justice Couriel's father, John L. Couriel (top center), is pictured with his fellow Boy Scout troop members during one of their many camping trips.

John L. Couriel passed his passion for Scouting on to his son, John D. Couriel.

Justice Couriel embraced his father's enthusiasm for the program and earned Boy Scouts of America's highest achievement, the rank of Eagle Scout.

There is a certain gratitude that comes with having been a beneficiary of everything that's good in America, which I think is true of all of us on the Court. I think there isn't anybody on the Court who isn't grateful to be an American. Identity is important. One of the things that Justice Labarga, Justice Muñiz, whose family is from Nicaragua, and I share is the special gratitude of folks who came here, perhaps not even speaking the language, and being welcomed. That influences our service. Those of us for whom the immigrant experiences were immediate, we're all immigrants eventually right, those of us who were one generation or less removed from it, we see pretty dramatically the gifts of this country, and that gives us a special sense of humility and gratitude when we do the work that we do.

D. Bates in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia? **Justice Couriel:** Judge Bates is an incredible mentor. He always took the time to get it right and thought through advocacy in a way that really taught me how to sort advocacy from decision. It was a great clerkship because of the time and place in which it happened. It was 2003 and we were in the wake of 9/11. There was a tremendous amount of national security activity in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. One of the things that's really cool about clerking for a judge on that court is that the whole circuit is in one building. It's just a

Raul: What did you learn while you were clerking under Judge John

Raul: What was then the transition like to becoming an Assistant United States Attorney?

thriving community of judges and law clerks. You all get to know each

other. It was just a wonderful experience.

Justice Couriel: So, before that, but after my clerkship, I went to New York and worked at Davis Polk & Wardwell. I did mergers and acquisitions, capital markets, and credit work, and it was largely cross-border in nature. That turned out to be fortunate because it gave me a transactional background. I was also exposed to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act when Davis Polk represented Siemens, AG.

So by the time I became an AUSA in 2009, I had had a very cross-border practice, that started out as a deal practice, then became an investigations practice, and so I went into the U.S. Attorney's office with that background. I did the same rotations—appeals and major crimes—that everybody does when they become AUSAs in the Southern District of Florida, but I had a really keen interest in cross-border fraud and money laundering. A number of the cases I did involved public officials. For example, I prosecuted a Peruvian cabinet minister who had been involved in money laundering activities. Over time I became interested in trust structures, offshore accounts, and the flow of money internationally more generally.

That turned out to be fateful, because my next job at Kobre & Kim was perfect for that background in cross-border fraud, cross-border money laundering, and cross-border law enforcement. It was important that I had experienced situations in which more than one sovereign was involved in prosecuting a crime—the Swiss authorities, the Cayman authorities, the U.S. authorities, the Brazilian authorities all attacking the client at the same time—and having to figure out how you're going to have a coordinated strategy in four or five theatres of combat.

Raul: So you were drawn by the way that those different jurisdictions

and parties intersected in one setting?

Justice Couriel: Yes, because it's a bit like diplomacy If you are advocating for a certain outcome in the U.S. court but at the same time explaining to the U.S. judge what's going to happen with the evidence that you get pursuant to 28 USC § 1782 in a Brazilian court, or if you are trying to convince folks at the fraud section of the DOJ that they should accept a certain account as the total amount of forfeiture because the Swiss are doing this or the Italians are doing that with it, you're basically engaged in diplomacy. You're engaged in explaining different systems in a persuasive way to try to get to an outcome that you favor. I loved that about the job.

Raul: What is your writing philosophy? Will you write for advanced legal minds in your opinions or more so for the general public?

Justice Couriel: I think we have a constitutional duty to write clearly. I think that the most advanced legal mind and the most basically educated citizen need to be equal to the task of adhering to the law and understanding what we do, and we as judges have to meet that challenge. So, my writing philosophy is to write as concisely and clearly as possible so that people have access to law that they can conform their behavior to, and that parties have settled expectations about what the law will provide. I think it was Wittgenstein who said, "that which can be said at all can be said clearly." I am a zealous outliner. I spend

a lot of time organizing myself before I write, and I rewrite a lot. I print out and remove. Especially in this new role I intend for my work to speak clearly and directly to the problems that are brought to us.

Raul: What problems or challenges in your new role do you most look forward to facing?

Justice Couriel: I very much look forward to working with my colleagues. I think that it's an incredibly collegial court, thankfully. It's a Court of colleagues who really respect each other and work well together and I feel like that's going to be the best part of the job.

Raul: Who is a jurist that you consider a role model and why?

Justice Couriel: I tend to gravitate

toward people who over the arc of their lives do many interesting things. I am a big fan of Justice Robert H. Jackson, who was both a great writer and had an amazing story. He was one of the prosecutors at the Nuremburg trials. Justice Sebring, of the Florida Supreme Court, went with him. I think it is telling that those great jurists were able both to be great jurists in the United States and also play an important role in world history, bringing a grievous injustice to justice.

I greatly admire Felix Frankfurter, who I think understood the importance of the original public meaning of the law before it was fashionable to talk about that, and really stood for letting the legislature do what the legislature does and courts do what courts do.

Raul: Is there anything you would change about legal



Florida Governor Ron DeSantis appointed John D. Couriel to be the 90th Justice to serve on the Florida Supreme Court at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. He was appointed to fill the seat previously held by his neighbor, Judge Barbara Lagoa (right). Conveniently, she was able to walk over to administer the oath of office on June 1, 2020, in his backyard. Justice Couriel's wife, Rebecca L. Toonkel, M.D., and their two children participated in the

education?

"Especially in this

new role I intend

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JUSTICE JOHN COURIEL

Justice Couriel: In Florida we have wonderful legal educational options. We have twelve law schools, and if you compare us to similarly sized states, that compares quite favorably. This is a good place to be a young person interested

> in the law. One of the things I'm most excited about in this job is being able to work with the extremely committed folks at The Florida Bar, the Florida Board of Bar Examiners, and the law schools to make sure that equality before the law, the rule of law, and public service, are part of everybody's law school curriculum.

> Raul: What is one thing about the Court's history that you are proud of?

> Justice Couriel: I'm proud that the Court is answerable to the people in a very direct and constitutional way. It is responsible for the way the legal profession is managed in the state, and how the legal profession serves the public in the state. Also, the Court stands for equality before

the law and the fair administration of justice in a way that Floridians can be very proud of. This has been a unique time to join the Court. The pandemic has been devastating to the administration of justice all over the world, and yet here, thanks in no small part to Chief Justice Canady's leadership, we have put in place a system that responds to the time we're in, a time of crisis. We all look forward to better days, but it says a lot about the kind of the courts we have that we have been able to proceed with much of our business. Judges all over the state are being flexible; doing their best to make sure that this critical public service continues to operate. I'm extremely proud of that.



FLORIDA SUPREME COURT NEWS

Meet the Newest Supreme Court Justice: Jamie R. Grosshans

By Renee E. Thompson

n September 14, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis appointed Jamie R. Grosshans of the Fifth District Court of Appeal to the Supreme Court of Florida, the fifth female Justice to serve on the Court. Filling the vacancy created by former Justice Robert J. Luck's appointment to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, Justice Grosshans' legal career has included practicing as both a criminal and civil trial lawyer, managing her own law firm, and serving as both a trial court and appellate judge. Upon appointment to the Court, she made the following promise to the people of Florida: "[Y]ou can trust that I

will bring a fidelity to the law and an unyielding respect for the separation of powers to my service on the Court."

Colleagues and friends say the newest Justice possesses a rare combination of high intellect, integrity, diligence, and a dedication to the law and its proper application. Chief Judge for the Ninth Judicial Circuit Donald A. Myers, Jr., says of his former colleague: "My dear friend, Jamie Grosshans, has a deep passion for the law and a well-developed framework for the administration of justice. Her diverse and rich background of public service complements an outstanding Florida Supreme Court bench."



TOP: On their way to the courtroom inside the Supreme Court of Florida building in Tallahassee, Florida, where Justice Alan Lawson will swear in Jamie R. Grosshans as the 91st Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, they are pictured passing by the many portraits of the Court's former Justices that hang in the hallway.

BOTTOM: Justice Grosshans is an avid reader and enjoys the classics as well as many contemporary works. She is pictured holding a book from her personal Agatha Christie collection.

Born and raised in the small town of Brookhaven, Mississippi, Justice Grosshans grew up with loving parents and both sets of grandparents active in her life, all of whom instilled in her an appreciation for family, faith, and community. She credits them with teaching her to believe she could accomplish anything she wished, which helped her dream about opportunities beyond her small town. Her dream of a career in the law may still be surprising given that she never encountered a female lawyer or judge until law school.

Following graduation from Thomas Edison State College in New Jersey, she enrolled at the University of Mississippi School of Law, an experience she cherishes to this day. She ultimately went on to graduate cum laude. During law school, she held leadership roles with several student organizations and held a summer internship where she met her future husband, Josh Grosshans—then a law student at Florida State University and now a lawyer in private practice in Winter Garden, Florida. After a long-distance relationship, they married two weeks after graduating from their respective law schools and she moved to Florida.

Justice Grosshans began her legal career as an Assistant State Attorney for the Ninth Circuit



of Florida in Orlando, where she gained knowledge and courtroom experience before making a change to civil practice. She later founded her own family law and criminal defense practice, which she operated until joining the trial bench as an Orange County Court judge. Meanwhile, she served her legal and local communities through pro bono work, mentorship, and numerous community service projects. She also taught hospitality law for approximately eight years at Valencia College. She attributes these experiences with helping her learn to communicate legal principles effectively to people who do not necessarily have legal backgrounds.

Though she enjoyed the practice of law and serving her clients, her focus on the law took on a new dimension in 2015, when she heard Ninth Judicial Circuit Judge John E. Jordan speak at an event, at which he challenged the lawyers in attendance to consider a life of public service in the judiciary. Recalling the moment, she says she felt as if Judge Jordan was speaking directly to her. One of her favorite quotes, from Albert Schweitzer, seemed fitting: "At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

After that event, Justice Grosshans spent time developing her legal philosophy, a deeper understanding of the law, the proper role of jurists, and how a judge should think and apply law to fact. She applied for a seat on the Orange County Court in 2017 and was appointed by former Governor Rick Scott, where she served until Governor Scott appointed her to the Fifth District Court of Appeal the following year.

Her appointment to the Fifth District brought praise from the bench and Bar alike. Daniel E. Nordby, an attorney involved in the vetting process for all three of her appointments, remarked: "During her time on the Orange County Court and Fifth DCA, Justice Grosshans developed a reputation as a fair and principled jurist. I am confident that she will bring those same qualities to her new role. I look forward to her service on the Florida Supreme Court for decades to come." Judge Eric Eisnaugle, Justice Grosshans' former colleague on the Fifth District Court of Appeal, adds: "Justice Grosshans is a resolute defender of the Constitution with an intellect to match. She will serve the people of Florida well."

An avid reader, Justice Grosshans enjoys classic fiction, mysteries, and biographies, as well as books about antiques, art, and interior design, as she has a

TOP: Justice Grosshans' three children sit in her seat on the bench at the Supreme Court of Florida behind her nameplate.

BOTTOM: After being sworn in as the fifth woman and the 91st Justice to serve on the Florida Supreme Court, Justice Jamie Grosshans leaves the Florida Supreme Court building on a rainy Tallahassee day. The candid photos of Justice Grosshans at the Supreme Court on the day of her swearing in were taken by her sister-in-law, Lindsay Grosshans.







With proper CDC protocols in place at the Florida Supreme Court, Justice Lawson administered the Oath of Office to Justice Grosshans after Governor Ron DeSantis appointed her to the Court on September 14, 2020.

"Justice Grosshans is a resolute defender of the Constitution with an intellect to match. She will serve the people of Florida well."

JUDGE ERIC EISNAUGLE, FIFTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

keen eye for aesthetics. She inherited her appreciation of beautiful things from her family, a quality she will undoubtedly pass along to her three children, Avery, Jack, and Alice. As the only female currently serving on the Court, Justice Grosshans says she draws insight and perspective from her roles as a working wife and mother of three. While announcing her appointment to the Florida Supreme Court, Governor DeSantis stated, "I think Judge

Grosshans will be an inspiration to a lot of working moms out there, to be able to raise three beautiful kids while maintaining a legal career. And I think she's done that very, very well. . . . I think she's going to do a fantastic job for the people of Florida."

As the 91st Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida at the age of 42, Justice Grosshans is sure to make her mark and leave a lasting legacy in Florida jurisprudence.

All Eyes Turn to Judge Barbara Lagoa



By Craig Waters

o Florida Supreme Court Justice has yet been named to the nation's highest court. But last September, all eyes turned toward the Florida Supreme Court after U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died September 18, 2020.

The Court was in the spotlight when former Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Lagoa became one of two finalists for a spot on the U.S. Supreme Court ultimately filled by Amy Coney Barrett. The attention on Lagoa made her the center of an ongoing global discussion for a full week—from September 18 to September 26, 2020.

Other Florida Justices have been under consideration in the past. Former Justice Rosemary Barkett often was mentioned as a possible candidate for appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court. Both Chief Justice Charles Canady and Justice Carlos G. Muñiz were included on a list of potential U.S. Supreme Court nominees floated by former President Donald Trump while he was in office.

But making the last cut is rare. So, the interest in Judge Lagoa was an unprecedented event that was intensified by the 24-hour news cycle and social media focus of Twenty-First Century journalism.

Journalists from around the globe began scouting out information about the potential nominees. When Judge Lagoa's name appeared on the short list, demand for information and images of her skyrocketed.

In September 2020, Judge Barbara Lagoa's name was on the final shortlist of nominees to be appointed to serve as a Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.



The seven Justices of the Supreme Court of Florida posed for their informal photo in early 2019. Standing, left to right: Justice Robert Luck, Justice Alan Lawson, Chief Justice Charles Canady, Justice Barbara Lagoa, Justice Carlos Muñiz; seated, left to right: Justice Ricky Polston and Justice Jorge Labarga.

Journalists turned to Tallahassee. Florida's broad public records laws made the Florida Supreme Court a trove of public source material. Reporters filed repeated public records requests with the Court's Public Information Office seeking biographies, official documents, and more.

Television and newspapers were interested in Lagoa's heritage as the child of Cuban immigrants who had fled to the United States. They wanted copies of her signed opinions. They asked if Canady and others would comment on her tenure on the Florida Supreme Court before her appointment to the U.S. Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals a year earlier.

Broadcast networks especially clamored for copies of videos showing Lagoa participating in Florida Supreme Court arguments, which they viewed as "action" clips of Lagoa at work. Because the Florida Supreme Court has archived its live oral arguments since 1997, these video clips were a prized find for network journalists striving to show the public exactly who Lagoa is as a person and a judge.

In the end, Barrett won the nomination on September 26, 2020. The social media buzz turned elsewhere. But Lagoa emerged with her national profile higher than before. And with it, the national profile of the Florida Supreme Court also was raised a little higher.

Long-Time Florida Supreme Court Librarian, Billie J. Blaine, Retires

By Erik Robinson

n March 3, 2020, long-time Florida Supreme Court Librarian, Billie J. Blaine, retired after serving 14 years as the Court's Librarian.

A native of Grand Island, Nebraska, Billie was the first person in her family to graduate from college. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in journalism in 1986 and a Juris Doctorate in 1993, both from the University of Nebraska. She then went on to earn a Master of Arts in library science from the University of Missouri in 1994. After serving as a reference librarian for two years at her alma mater, the Nebraska College of Law, Billie moved to Macon, Georgia, to work at the Mercer University School of Law as Associate Law Librarian for Public Services. She then moved to Tallahassee, where she worked as head of circulation at Florida State University's Strozier Library. In 2006, Billie was hired as the fourth Librarian of the Florida Supreme Court.

Billie brought a wide range of experience and innovation to the Court. During her 14 years as Librarian, she supervised librarians and staff and all library functions, managed the library collection, including archives and rare books, set





TOP: Billie Blaine served as Librarian of the Florida Supreme Court for fourteen years. She was only the fourth person to serve in that role.

BOTTOM: Each semester, Billie taught the Court's law student interns about researching legislative history. Here, she's pictured (standing back right) speaking to interns in the Court's library.





LEFT: The Court's library staff created a most appropriate holiday tree for the Supreme Court of Florida Library—one made of green law books and topped with Lady Justice. Left to right: Technical Librarian Jeff Spalding, Assistant Librarian Teresa Carreiro Farley, Administrative Assistant Jill Harrell, Archivist Erik Robinson, and Librarian Billie Blaine. RIGHT: Billie (bottom) directs staff member Gerry Allen on decorating the Court's rotunda for the holidays.

library policy and procedures, managed the library budget, provided legal research and reference support to staff attorneys and the general public, taught legislative-history research methods to law-school interns, and taught basic legal-research principles to teachers as part of the Justice Teaching Institute.

In addition to those activities, Billie gives generously of her time and treasure to several charitable causes. She chaired the former Florida State Employees Charitable Campaign, is a regular blood donor, and has been an active volunteer and board member with the Gadsden County Humane Society for over 15 years.

Billie was an *ex officio* member of the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society Board of Trustees, and attended many of the Society's annual dinners held at Florida State University. Note: the Society was founded by Supreme Court Librarian Brian Polley in 1982.

Billie recalled her first big project as Librarian:

Chief Justice R. Fred Lewis requested an evaluation of the entire library collection. We created a comprehensive list of all books in the library, including the coverage of each and whether or not we were still receiving updates. With that list in hand, I made decisions about whether or not to keep what we had and whether or not to keep receiving updates. As a result, we removed and recycled thousands of books, and canceled many subscriptions, saving thousands of dollars. It was a huge project and long overdue and is probably the accomplishment of which I'm most proud.

She worked on other projects, as well, including a library renovation, the 2007 water intrusion which threatened library materials, holiday decorations for the Court's rotunda, and making the Supreme Court Library an inviting place to be, at the holidays (and year around).

From the Author Erik Robinson, who is the archivist for the Library: Oh, and thanks, Billie, for all the cakes you baked for many library staff birthday celebrations!

A Supreme Evening: 2021 in the Virtual World

By Hala Sandridge

fter two decades of hosting its annual dinner event, *A Supreme Evening*, live in Tallahassee, the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society held a virtual gala to maintain the tradition despite the pandemic. All guests were able to participate in the event virtually.

The event was no ordinary weekday Zoom meeting but a professionally produced live broadcast. The result of all these changes? Another supreme success with double the attendance!

The evening started with the pre-show, which highlighted some of the Historical Society's ongoing projects: a virtual tour production of the Supreme Court Building; the Historical Society camera crews, who regularly attend Investitures, retirements, and oral history interviews; and commissioning Supreme Court Justices' official portraits displayed in the Supreme Court building. Past President of the Historical Society Hank Coxe again masterfully hosted the evening festivities, and thanked the evening's event sponsors. The pre-show ended with highlights of speakers from past A Supreme Evening events.

The main event began with Historical Society President Jonathan Claussen welcoming and thanking guests for their support of the Historical Society. The newly appointed Florida Supreme Court Justices





TOP: During the Supreme Evening broadcast, Chief Justice Canady updated the viewers on the latest emergency rules and procedures that were in place as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

BOTTOM: As part of the virtual tour of the Florida Supreme Court building, Florida Supreme Court Archivist Erik Robinson provided a tour of the rare book room located in the library.









TOP: Emilie Rietow provided a virtual tour of the Supreme Court Building. She is pictured here in the building's rotunda next to the white bronze court seal.

MIDDLE: The Florida Bar's former Executive Director John "Jack" F. Harkness presented the Historical Society's Lifetime Achievement Award to Justice Joseph W. Hatchett and interviewed Justice Hatchett as part of the presentation.

BOTTOM (LEFT): The event's perennial Emcee Hank Coxe (former Historical Society President) again masterfully hosted the event this year virtually.

BOTTOM (RIGHT): Historical Society President Jonathan Claussen welcomed viewers and provided a brief update on the Society's activities.

John D. Couriel and Jamie R. Grosshans entertained the audience with remarks about their backgrounds and thoughts on leadership and professionalism during their interviews with Historical Society Trustee Fred Karlinsky.

Chief Justice Charles Canady next offered his "State of the Court" address, focusing on the pandemic's effect on the courts and Florida's judiciary, the Courts' quick pivot to the use of remote technology, and the trial courts' backlog of unresolved cases. He also shared plans for a partnership with the Society to create a Judicial Learning Center inside the Court's 175-year-old library to offer educational outreach and learning programs that draw on the Court's history. Justice Canady concluded with a reminder about the Court's important role in our system of constitutional government.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the Historical Society's Lifetime Achievement Award to former Florida Supreme Court Justice Joseph W. Hatchett. The award recognizes an individual who has devoted a lifetime to improving other's lives. As the first African-American appointed to the Florida Supreme Court since Reconstruction and elected to public office in a statewide election in the South. Justice Hatchett was a pioneer in Florida law. Following moving video clips from former Governor Reubin Askew, Chesterfield Smith, and former Florida Supreme Court Justice Rosemary Barkett, former Florida Bar Executive Director Jack Harkness—also a Lifetime Achievement Award honoreeinterviewed Justice Hatchett in his home.

The evening concluded with this year's keynote presenter, Jon Meacham, a renowned presidential historian, and Pulitzer Prizewinning author. Mr. Meacham provided a historical view of American Presidents and their approach to professionalism and leadership. He also shared his thoughts on the United States' "epistemological crisis" and discussed why curiosity, candor, and empathy are three characteristics that have advanced the country.

This year's *A Supreme Evening* took an incredible amount of coordination, with presenters appearing live in different locations. Nonetheless, the virtual gala was a resounding hit. An added bonus:

Attendees earned one hour of CLE credit in Professionalism or CJE credit in Ethics for Florida Judges. Historical Society members can still view the video of the event on the Historical Society's website and earn the CLE/CJE credit at www.FlCourtHistory.org/SupremeEvening2021.

The Historical Society once again would like to thank all of the sponsors of *A Supreme Evening* 2021. Their generous support made this event possible.

During his one-on-one interview with Historical Society Trustee Fred Karlinsky, Justice Couriel provided insight into his passion for the law and justice.



A Supreme Evening 2021 Sponsors

A special thank you to these outstanding firms and individuals for their generous contributions that made this special event possible.

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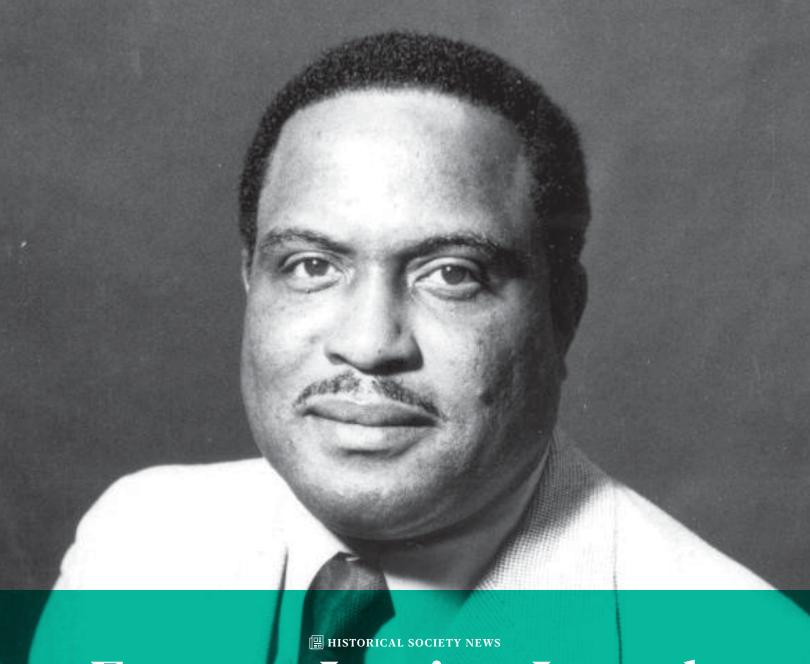
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Former Justice Joseph W. Hatchett Honored With Society's Lifetime Achievement Award

By The Honorable Rosemary Barkett

ooking back at Joseph W. Hatchett's life, it is easy to see why he deserves the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society's Lifetime Achievement Award.

His life reflects an amazing commitment to fight for justice and equality at a time when the battle for both was stacked against him. His life is an example of patience, perseverance, and calmness in the face of daily bouts of injustice and unfairness.

As early as grade school he was keenly aware of the civil rights movement and the inequity of segregation. A civics teacher convinced Joe that if he were to help America become a better place, the law would be the changing agent.

After serving in the Army in West Germany, he went to Howard Law School at a time when Thurgood Marshall, who was general counsel to the NAACP, would come to Howard to practice his oral argument prep.

Joe must have picked up some pointers because when he started to practice in Daytona Beach, he quickly became known to all the city and county commissioners and judges. Why? Because in his words: "I



TOP: Joseph W. Hatchett takes the oath of office on September 2, 1975, as the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Florida Sid White holds a Bible. Justices Boyd and England are in the background. BOTTOM: The Florida Supreme Court held a ceremonial session in May 1990 hosted by the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society to honor and recognize the legal and judicial achievements of Judge Hatchett. The Historical Society recorded the event to capture an oral history of his career; the list of presenters that honored him during the event included former Governor Reubin Askew, former ABA Presidents William Reece Smith, Jr., and Chesterfield Smith, and former Justice Alan C. Sundberg.





Justice Joseph Hatchett served on the Florida Supreme Court from 1975 to 1979 before being appointed by President Jimmy Carter to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. This photo of the Florida Supreme Court in session in 1977 includes (left to right): Justice Hatchett, Justice England, Justice Adkins, Chief Justice Overton, Justice Boyd, Justice Sundberg, and Justice Karl.

"Judge Hatchett was a towering figure in the legal profession. Known for his compassion, wisdom, and keen legal intellect, he broke down barriers and was a man ahead of his time on issues of social justice and equality. He was a legal pioneer, a change agent, a proud Akerman partner, and friend to all he knew."

SCOTT MEYERS, AKERMAN LLP CHAIRMAN & CEO

was bringing the kind of suits they had not seen before and I was before the school board every week; up before the county commission every week" and up before federal judges regularly.

From his office in Daytona Beach, he represented demonstrators who had been arrested across Florida—in St. Augustine, Deland, Titusville, Cocoa, and Melbourne—traveling up and down the State losing dozens of cases on the same day "going into court knowing the judge was just going to go against you regardless of your argument." But he persevered in making a record for appellate courts and for the world.

Although Joe and I did not overlap on the Florida Supreme Court, we did share many of the same experiences. One example is our common appreciation of the treatment we both received from Justice Jimmy Adkins, who welcomed us and made it clear that we were to be treated fairly and respected. Justice Adkins, in many ways, took us both under his wing.

Ultimately, Joe was appointed to the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit where, like Justice Marshall, he was able to work on the civil rights law that he knew so well, but from a very different perspective.

After the Fifth Circuit was split and he became part of the new Eleventh Circuit, I was then able to serve with him on the court. There, I knew him as a colleague and then as my chief judge. And beyond his legal ability and

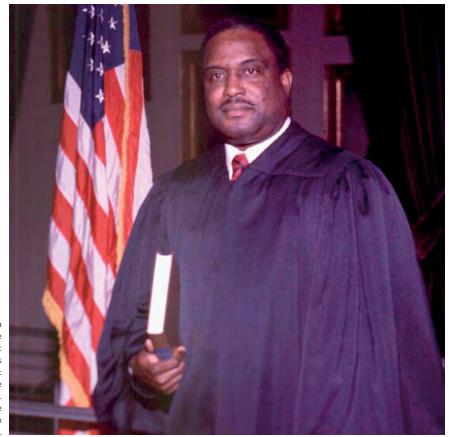


continuing bravery and persistence in the causes of justice, I found him inspirational as a leader.

It is not news that organizing or trying to lead a group of judges is said to be like herding cats. Joe was a paragon of steadiness and calmness no matter what difficulty arose in the circuit or on the court.

His external gentleness and calmness are wrapped around a steel core of dedication to equality and justice. His contribution to both of those ideals in Florida and in this country throughout his life is immeasurable. He is exceptionally deserving of this Lifetime Achievement award.

TOP: A proud moment. For the rest of his life, Florida Governor Reubin Askew said his appointment of Justice Hatchett to the Supreme Court of Florida was his best decision as the Governor of Florida. At Justice Hatchett's Investiture, Askew joins Hatchett's family (left to right): Governor Askew, Justice Hatchett, Justice Hatchett's wife Betty Lou, and their daughters, Cheryl and Brenda. BOTTOM: On September 2, 1975, Joseph Hatchett became the 65th Justice and first African-American to serve on the Florida Supreme Court.





The Florida Supreme Court Historical Society was pleased to present its Lifetime Achievement Award to Justice Joseph Hatchett for his outstanding career and contributions to Florida's judiciary and legal community. The A Supreme Evening 2021 broadcast on January 28, 2021, included footage of Jack Harkness presenting the Lifetime Achievement Award to Justice Hatchett in his home.

IN MEMORIAM JUSTICE JOSEPH W. HATCHETT



Justice Hatchett lies in state in the rotunda of the Florida Supreme Court building in Tallahassee, Florida, on May 7, 2021, as his family members pay their respects.

Remembering Chief Justice Gerald Kogan: A Legal Legend Who Opened Florida's Courts to the People

By Craig Waters

erald Kogan was an innovator in his time as Florida's Chief Justice. His death this past March gives us a time to take stock of his far-reaching legacy as the former head of Florida's judicial system.

As Florida's Chief Justice from 1996 to 1998, Kogan launched Florida's pioneering "Access Initiative." It was the most important of several big changes he made.

Premised on the idea that everyone should have access to courts, Kogan's initiative was praised as one of the most creative uses of cutting-edge technology in any American state in the 1990s. Many of its elements later became standard practice, though they were new and daring at the time.

The initiative included things we take for granted today. For example, Kogan placed public information and court records on the Internet for free, at a time when others hoped to sell them.

He launched educational programs about the justice system and started live broadcasts of Court arguments via satellite and cable television and on the World-Wide Web. This effort included livestreaming Florida Supreme Court arguments starting in 1997, years before it became standard practice for many courts.

When Justice Kogan retired on December 31, 1998, he left a legacy that still has an impact today.

The truest test of Justice Kogan's Access Initiative came just two years after his retirement when its major features were put to the test in the Bush v. Gore presidential election appeals of 2000.

Facing worldwide demand, the Florida Supreme Court was able to offer everyone quick online access to legal documents in these history-making cases and to the live video and audio of court arguments from start to finish.

This was an amazing amount of access in 2000. And people took notice. Within a few years, courts around the world were imitating what Kogan had done.

> Transparency such as this was an idea that Justice Kogan fostered and made part of the Court's culture. It built on the work of pioneers in transparency like Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte and former Justices Arthur England, Ben Overton, and Alan

> During his tenure as Chief Justice, Kogan began active press relations to start a twoway dialogue with media and the public, in an effort to make sure that their concerns were addressed. This program has grown over time to become the core of an official communications plan for Florida's state

> Under Justice Kogan's leadership, rules committees crafted the nation's first rule of court authorizing and regulating legal selfhelp centers then emerging in Florida.

> This rule increased access to the courts. It encouraged local courts to establish

programs to help self-represented litigants. And it gave self-help staff solid guidance on what they could and could not do-a problem that had stymied earlier efforts.

Kogan improved the courts through his leadership of the Judicial Management Council. Under him, the Council performed the first scientific survey of court customers to



"Justice Kogan was always looking at how to better serve those who entered the courthouse doors. I too had the great fortune of calling him a mentor and he will continue to influence how I practice law each day."

KELLY O'KEEFE, HISTORICAL SOCIETY PAST PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE









TOP LEFT: Former Justices Gerald Kogan, Barbara Pariente, Rosemary Barkett, and Peggy Quince (left to right) at the 2017 Florida Bar Convention in Boca Raton. TOP RIGHT: Gerald Kogan takes the oath as Chief Justice with his wife, Irene Kogan, on June 3, 1996. BOTTOM LEFT: Chief Justice Gerald Kogan presiding over the Court at a court session held in the restored courtroom of the Old Capitol on May 9, 1997, as part of state sesquicentennial activities. The restored courtroom uses many of the original 1902 furnishings, including sections of the railing that separated the justices and attorneys from the public. Because the space had been a museum exhibit since 1990, the curator went into the space, removed most of the exhibit accessories, and silenced the alarms that would sound if someone went into that restored space. He also found a seventh chair for the bench, as there were only six justices on the court in 1902. Though somewhat crowded, the Justices worked well together as they heard the cases before them on that day. The Museum of Florida History curator who created the exhibit and restored area of the 1902 Florida Supreme Court was Erik Robinson, who currently serves as the Supreme Court Library archivist. BOTTOM RIGHT: Chief Justice Gerald Kogan (left) is pictured with Florida House Speaker Peter Rudy Wallace (right) in the rotunda of Florida Supreme Court Building, Wallace had just spoken at Kogan's swearing in as Chief Justice.

establish where courts were succeeding and failing.

The Council used the data to begin the first long-range comprehensive plan for Florida's state courts. As a result, Justice Kogan left a state courts system that for the first time operated under a continuing written plan for future growth and future planning.

Even after his retirement, Kogan kept up his good work. He returned to Miami and led an effort there to

fight corruption. He taught and mentored countless lawyers and students. He continued working as a lawyer and an advocate. And he was a loving husband, father, and grandfather to his family.

Florida is better off today because of the contributions of Gerald Kogan. All of us are blessed by his meaningful and positive impact in a life well-lived.









TOP LEFT: The official "informal" photograph of the Court with Chief Justice Gerald Kogan presiding in 1997. TOP RIGHT: Former Justice Gerald Kogan with his wife, Irene Kogan, in their retirement years on January 18, 2020. BOTTOM LEFT: Justices Gerald Kogan (left) and Leander J. Shaw, Jr. (right), flank Chief Justice Rosemary Barkett in a 1993 photograph.

BOTTOM RIGHT: On August 23, 2019, Justice Gerald Kogan (center) received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his work in court communications at a meeting in Fort Myers of the Florida Court Public Information Officers, Inc. The award was presented to Kogan by FCPIO President Michelle Kennedy, PIO for Florida's Eighteenth Judicial Circuit (right), with FCPIO Executive Director Craig Waters standing to the left.

Justice James E. Alderman: 1936-2021

By Craig Waters

uring his years on the Florida Supreme Court, former Justice James E. Alderman was a living window into traditions that stretched back to the time before Florida became a state, when his forebears established a cattle ranch in the areas east of Lake Okeechobee. Alderman continued those traditions, working on the family ranch while he also built a successful law practice.

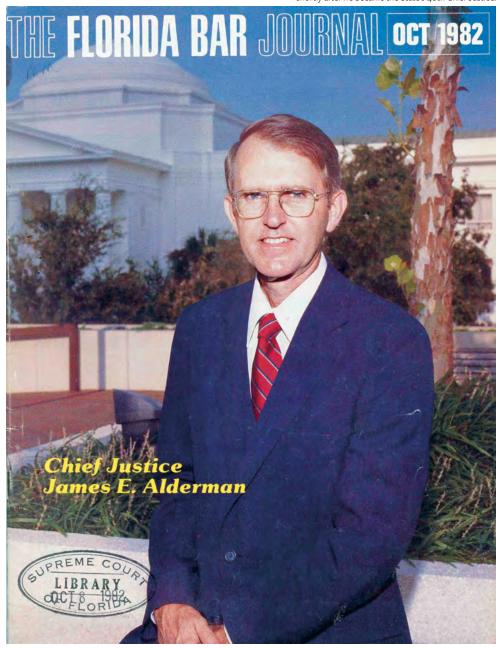
Alderman died June 10, 2021, at the age of 84. He was Florida's 67th Justice and its 40th Chief Justice since statehood was granted in 1845.

Born in Fort Pierce, Florida, Alderman went on to live his life as a devoted husband, father, grandfather, lawyer, iudge, and cowman. He was a sixthgeneration Floridian family had been cattle ranchers in Florida since the 1830s.

Alderman grew up in Fort Pierce where he worked on the family ranch from an early age and graduated from Dan McCarty High School in 1954. He then attended the University of Florida where he received his bachelor's degree in 1958 and law degree in 1961.

While he was in Gainesville, Alderman was introduced to Jennie Thompson, whom he married in 1961 shortly after

The Florida Bar Journal ran a feature article on James Alderman shortly after he became the State's 40th Chief Justice.



graduating from law school.

The Aldermans returned to Fort Pierce where he began to practice law. His successful law practice would eventually turn into a career as a judge that would take him through all levels of the state courts in Florida.

Appointed to the Saint Lucie County Court in 1971 by Governor Reubin Askew, Alderman quickly moved up to the Nineteenth Circuit Court after winning an election in 1972. He remained there for four years before Askew again called on him in 1976 to fill a seat on the Fourth District Court of Appeal.

In 1978, Askew appointed Alderman to the Florida Supreme Court. Alderman served there from 1978 to 1985, including two years as Chief Justice from 1982 to 1984. Alderman retired to return to the family ranch when his father no longer was able to manage it.

At that time, Alderman became fully involved in the ranch and the Florida Cattlemen's Association, serving as its president from 2001 to 2002. Alderman loved the ranch, spent hours driving around it, and made it a full-time commitment until he began to step back and let his own son take over.

Alderman was predeceased by his wife Jennie. He is survived by his son Jimmy and his wife Lee Ann; his grandchildren James Austin and Amber Leigh; his wife Patricia; his sister and brother-in-law Joyce and Ray Deloney and their family; and the many friends he made in all aspects of his life.







TOP: Governor Reubin Askew (left) welcomed Justice Alderman (right) to the Supreme Court of Florida on the day of his Investiture. BOTTOM (LEFT): Alderman is pictured on his horse at his family's ranch in Okeechobee, Florida.

BOTTOM (RIGHT): Alderman is pictured with his longtime judicial assistant Callie Quigg.



The always jovial Joe Boyd, standing alongside the portrait of his father, Justice Joseph A. Boyd Jr.

III HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Remembering Historical Society Trustee Joseph R. Boyd

By James M. Durant, Jr.

oseph R. Boyd adapted to much change in his more than 45-year legal career. Word processors, computers, and the internet transformed the practice of law. But the fundamentals have not changed. Joe knew he must discover the relevant facts, apply the law to those facts, and advocate for his client within those constraints. An open mind is essential. Listening is as important as speaking. That was as true for Joe during a week-long Zoom trial last year as it was during his first trial 45 years ago.

Joe's interest in the Florida Supreme Court began before he went to law school. His father, Joseph A. Boyd, Jr., was first elected to the Court in 1969. Justice Boyd remained on the Court through the first 13 years of Joe's practice and joined Joe's law firm when he left the bench. Joe had a front-row seat as the Court moved from elected justices to our present system of merit selection and retention. His respect and admiration of the Court, and his support for the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society, never waned.

Joe saw firsthand how hard judges at all levels work to reach the just result. Many of the public views about the Court are informed by the few opinions that address politically controversial subjects. Joe knew better. He respected the law and the people he worked with throughout his career. He had a unique ability to inject levity into tense situations. Joe was walking proof that there need not be tension between zealously representing a client and showing kindness and joviality to opposing lawyers. Adding some extra compassion and good humor in your work is the most fitting tribute to Joe Boyd I can think of.

TFLORIDA LEGAL HISTORY

Stare Decisis in Florida During the Civil War

By The Honorable Robert W. Lee

he robust common law doctrine of *stare decisis* has been part of Florida jurisprudence since its territorial days. Under *stare decisis*, appellate decisions in prior cases are regarded as authoritative in new cases involving similar facts. During the Civil War, however, the Florida Supreme Court faced a conundrum: Which decisions should be viewed as providing precedential value to Florida courts under the Confederacy?

From January 1861 through May 1865, the State of Florida fatefully aligned itself with the Confederate States of America (CSA). The alliance did not bode well for the operation of the state's courts. While the Justices on the Florida Supreme Court remained the same during the transition from the United States of America (USA) to the CSA, the high court itself struggled to operate consistently



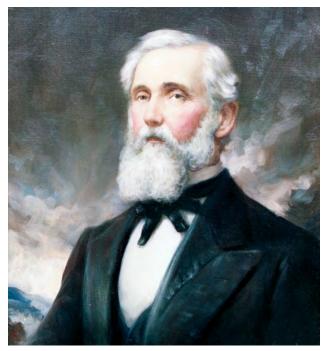
during the war, issuing far fewer decisions than it had in previous years and looking forward to a time when "peace shall again smile on our land." The high court did not hide its feelings of disdain for those who left Florida for Northern states during the war, referring to one as an "alien enemy and traitor." Nor did the Court have trouble noting that the State of Florida was now "sovereign and independent." Notwithstanding the State's membership in the CSA, however, the wartime opinions of the Florida Supreme Court demonstrate that the State's jurisprudence continued to be very much deeply rooted in that of the USA

Understandably, the early decisions of the Florida Supreme Court under the Confederacy arose out of lower court proceedings that had occurred when Florida acknowledged its tie to the USA. In the first case to be reported by the high court during the war, Owens v. Love, the Court faced an issue for which no Florida precedent existed. The Court, without any apparent distress, relied on decisions from New York and Pennsylvania. Moreover, the high tribunal cited approvingly and extensively to Justice Joseph Story, although he had served on the U.S. Supreme Court from 1811 to 1845 and was widely known as working to promote a stronger and "more centralized Union." The same result was reached in the same term in Baltzell v. Randolph, in which the Florida Supreme Court adopted Justice Story's treatise "as the true rule" on the controlling issue in the case. In Magee v. Doe, the high court specifically cited Chief Justice John Marshall in relying on a case he authored while on the U.S. Supreme Court—and that was not the only reference the Florida Supreme Court would make to Justice Marshall during the war.

As another example of the high court's reliance on USA legal decisions, the Florida Supreme Court wrote in 1862, perhaps incongruously, in a case involving statutory

As a prosperous North Florida gentleman farmer, Charles Dupont presided as Chief Justice throughout the Civil War and the first years of the Reconstruction Era.

construction: "In our own country, the following language is used," and then cited to the U.S. Supreme Court. Two years later, the state's high tribunal referred to "general principles settled by our courts," and then cited authorities from Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana, although these states were clearly not part of the Confederacy. Many other





TOP: Elected to the Supreme Court in 1859, David S. Walker served until 1865. He then went on to serve as the 8th Governor of Florida.

BOTTOM: William A. Ford served in both the territorial and state Legislature, including as Speaker of the House. Elected to the Supreme Court in 1860, his strong leanings toward the Southern point of view led him to support secession.

decisions relied for authority on the U.S. Supreme Court or courts of the Northern states, even well into the war period. During that time, the Florida high court also explained that it had adopted the "rules of equity in the Circuit Courts of the United States," as being applicable in the Florida state courts, and further cited with approval a Northern decision in which the Florida tribunal referred to the New York jurist as "the learned judge." In one decision involving competing acts of legislation passed during the same legislative session, the high court relied on a rule of statutory construction set out by the Indiana Supreme Court.

More telling perhaps is the way the U.S. Supreme Court itself was viewed by both the Florida Supreme Court and attorneys appearing before it. For instance, in Yulee v. Canova, the Florida high court "observed, in interpreting a statute enacted by the Confederate Congress, that a particular issue was a 'well settled rule of law,' and cited as authority decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court," even though the tribunal was determining the rights of an agent to contract for use of provisions for the Confederate government. This statement was even more interesting because the case involved supplies for the Confederate army and whether the Florida courts had jurisdiction to intervene. In reviewing the decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court, the Florida high court concluded that these decisions "laid down the law" on the issue in the case. Similarly, the Florida tribunal concluded, by reviewing U.S. legal authority, that the state court was the proper place to resolve a dispute arising under an act of the Confederate Congress.

Attorney Thomas Baltzell, who had previously served as a Justice on the Florida Supreme Court, argued before the high court in Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund v. Bailey that most of the legal issues in the case

have been disposed of in that great forum of intellect, power and ability of the late American Union—the Supreme Court of the United States after full argument by the most distinguished lawyers of the Bar from different States ... decided by the Court after mutual consideration ... - decided not once, but again and again so that the simple duty remains a present reference to these decisions.

And in a case involving the Florida Atlantic & Gulf Coast Railroad, the Florida Supreme Court noted that many different authorities existed on the legal issue presented in the case, but the Court needed merely to look to decisions of the highest courts of England and the United States to render a ruling.

This perhaps should not be surprising, as the common law roots of American jurisprudence recognize the primacy of precedent under the doctrine of stare decisis, by which the decisions in prior cases are regarded as authoritative on new cases involving similar facts. Going back to when

Florida was merely a U.S. territory, its Legislative Council declared the common law of England as it had existed on July 4, 1776, to be the law of the land, with a few exceptions. Indeed, in two of the earliest cases issued by the Florida Supreme Court as a member of the CSA, the high court recognized the continuing applicability of English common law to legal issues arising in the State. The doctrine of *stare decisis* had long constituted "part of the English common-law tradition accepted in the United States," and it continued its strong pull in Florida under the Confederacy.

By the time of the Civil War, the Florida Supreme Court had already relied on the doctrine of stare decisis on several occasions. The maxim appears to have been first specifically recognized by the Florida high court in 1855 in the case of Sealey v. Thomas, and it continued to be applied throughout the war. In the absence of significant existing Florida case law, a review of the cases at that time reveals that the doctrine had a slightly different meaning than it does today, with today's focus being on the concept of "controlling" precedent. In antebellum Florida, there were few cases that would constitute "controlling" precedent for the state courts. Rather, the courts looked to common law decisions, often of the English courts, to determine whether there was a consistent line of ruling that would warrant application of the doctrine of stare decisis. Even if there were some decisional conflict, in the absence of a contrary statute or an absurd result, the majority ruling would be applied. In instances in which the line of decisions was "floating and contradictory," an argument would be made that the

doctrine could not be applied to any single decision, and the Florida high court should consider the matter from a fresh start.

In one instance during the war in which the decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court were broader than those of the English courts, the Florida Supreme Court cited with approval the view of the U.S. high court, noting that the Georgia courts also followed the broader rule. In another case, the Florida high court considered the conflicting British and American rules on the law of assignments, and it decided to follow the American rule, noting its uniformity throughout the United States. In those instances in which the Court found Florida precedent to be sufficient, however, the Court declined to consider cases from other jurisdictions, unless they could be harmonized with the Florida decision. In essence, the Florida high court treated Northern legal decisions in a similar fashion to those of England, because all honored the common law tradition.

At the end of the war, the Florida state courts were in disarray. The State fell under military rule, and a martial law order suspended the justices of the Florida Supreme Court. It took some time for the Florida Supreme Court to begin to fully function again, issuing only one decision in 1866. The high court's reliance on the common law doctrine of *stare decisis*, however, has continued uninterrupted as it had before and during the war.

For ease of publication and reading, footnotes have been removed from this article. The full version, with footnotes, may be viewed on the Historical Society's website.



Finished in 1845, the year Florida became a state, the first state Capitol housed the judicial, legislative, and executive branches for many decades.

The Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission: Its Purpose, Powers, Processes, and Public Responsibility

By Dr. Steven R. Maxwell

n 1966, the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission (JQC) was created by an amendment to the Florida Constitution, as set forth in Article V. The JQC is an independent agency of the State of Florida. It is not affiliated with the Florida Supreme Court or the Florida system of state courts. The JQC establishes and operates under rules that it creates for itself.

The JQC's purpose is to investigate allegations of judicial misconduct filed by individuals. The JQC investigates issues concerning only whether Judges have violated any one or more of the seven Canons the (the "Canons") found in the Code of Judicial Conduct for the State of Florida (the "Code").

WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE JQC?

According to Article V, section 12, of the Florida Constitution, the JQC is comprised of fifteen members. Six of the fifteen members are Judges that are selected by Judges of the District Courts of Appeal, the Circuit Courts, and the County Courts. The Governor appoints five laypersons, and the four remaining members are lawyers who are appointed by The Florida Bar. All fifteen members serve six-year terms.

Dr. Larry Tyree is one of five lay persons members who currently serve on the JQC. He was appointed to the Commission in November 2019. Commissioner Tyree explained his impressions from serving on the JQC: "I am very pleased that Florida, my native state, has a vehicle such as the JQC to deal with ethical allegations made against judges. I am enormously impressed with the JQC staff, especially Alex and Blan." He says "citizens of Florida should be proud that there is a JQC so complaints against judges can be lodged and considered and that the members of the JQC take so very seriously their responsibilities."

Lawyer member and former President of The Florida



Bar, Michael J. Higer, has been serving on the JQC for less than a year. Commissioner Higer also serves as a Trustee on the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society Board of Trustees. Commissioner Higer says serving on the JQC "is a very sobering experience." For the public's benefit, he offers the following: "The people who make up the JQC are dedicated, intelligent, experienced knowledgeable and passionate professionals who are all committed to serving the highest ideals of justice."

WHAT DOES THE JQC DO?

The JQC website reports that, in 1990, the JQC "was divided into an Investigative Panel and a Hearing Panel."

The Investigative Panel (IP) acts like a Grand Jury, reviewing and investigating complaints containing allegations of Judicial Misconduct. "The IP determines whether probable cause is found and formal charges are filed. The Hearing Panel (HP) acts as a special master. The HP is charged with making findings of fact and recommendations to the Florida Supreme Court as to the appropriate discipline." The IP and HP normally meet eight times each year, are confidential, and are not open to the public.

The JQC is authorized to investigate a Complaint regarding a Judge's actions anytime while serving on the bench or for one year after the Judge leaves office. It is important to emphasize that the JQC has no authority to investigate, reverse, or change any decision or ruling made by a judge or court. The JQC also does not have the authority to investigate Judges in other states. Nor can it investigate the actions of federal judges and magistrates. Finally, the JQC lacks jurisdiction and/or authority to investigate complaints filed against lawyers, law enforcement personnel, court employees, or state attorneys.

The JQC is not empowered to impose any sanction and or disciplinary action against a Judge—*i.e.*, removal. If the JQC finds that a Judge has violated any of the Canons, the JQC is authorized to file its recommendation(s) for action to the Florida Supreme Court (the "Court"). The Court is then charged with reviewing the JQC's recommendation(s) and determining if it is legally correct. The Court can also impose its own form of discipline.

The JQC can also recommend to the Court that certain Judges be required to retire involuntarily if a serious health issue(s) interferes with and prevents a Judge from performing their duties. It should be noted that a recommendation for involuntary resignation by the JQC and its acceptance by the Court does not constitute misconduct. All involuntary retirement filings concerning a Judge are and will remain confidential, in accordance with state laws that shield state employees' medical records.

Note the only other governmental body that can discipline a Judge by impeachment proceedings is the Florida's Legislative Branch's House of Representatives and Senate.

A Judge may receive one or more of the following forms of Discipline: "No discipline, A public reprimand, A fine, Suspension from office, Removal from office or Involuntary retirement due to serious illness." In some instances, the Judge's actions may not rise to the level of receiving a recorded formal disciplinary action—*i.e.*, public reprimand. Instead, the Judge receives "charitable understanding" through a "Dim View" visit by one or more members of the JQC to offer advice and counsel to the judge. These "Dim View" visits are generally given to a Judge who has an "impeccable career" but did "something dumb" and was an "isolated incident" that did not cause any harm to the public or the administration of justice.

On average, the JQC, "disposes of nearly 700 cases a year. Commission members are volunteers and receive no

form of compensation other than reimbursement for travel, meals and lodging if required."

THE JQC'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

The JQC is authorized to hire and compensate an executive director and staff to carry out the administration of the JQC's prescribed duties and responsibilities. Since the JQC was created in 1966, it has employed three Executive Directors.

1. JQC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BROOKE S. KENNERLY

Brooke S. Kennerly was the JQC's first Executive Director. She served as an Administrative Assistant starting in 1966 and assumed the title of Executive Director in 1980. She retired in 2014, after serving 34 years in that position. According to Mrs. Kennerly, she served as Executive Director through 16 Chairs (judges, lawyers and laypersons).

Mrs. Kennerly explains that the greatest challenge, "(then and now) is explaining to Florida's citizenry that the Commission does not have jurisdiction over a judicially incompetent judge that is, over a judge's legal ability. Many of the complaints the Commission receives relate to judicial rulings and it falls to the Commission to attempt to explain the distinction between unethical conduct and bad rulings."

2. JQC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MICHAEL L. SCHNEIDER

Michael L. Schneider began his service as the JQC's General Counsel in 2006, after serving 16 years as a prosecutor in the Second Judicial Circuit. Mr. Schneider became the second Executive Director in 2014, following Brooke Kennerly's retirement. From 2014, until his retirement in June 2019, Mr. Schneider served as the General Counsel and Executive Director of the JQC. Sadly, Michael L. Schneider passed away on December 18, 2019.

Miles McGrane, former President of The Florida Bar (2003) and a past Chair (2008-2012) and lawyer member of the JQC, describes Mr. Schneider as being a person who exhibited an uncanny "level of calmness, wisdom and who also possessed a great sense of humor along with that infectious sly smile of his."

The current Chair of the JQC, the Honorable Michelle Morley, recalls Mr. Schneider also having "a wonderful sense of humor and a Tennessee phrase for every situation. I think my favorite was . . . 'The wagon of love collapsed under the luggage of life.'"

Michael Schneider will always be remembered as being "a friend, mentor, advisor, and a perpetual voice of reason. He exhibited wisdom and kindness in all that he did."

3. JQC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BLAN TEAGLE

On February 20, 2020, Blan Teagle became the third Executive Director of the JQC. He worked for 27 years in the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA), ultimately

serving as the Deputy State Courts Administrator. He assisted in starting the College of Advanced Judicial Studies as well as a mentor judge program.

Reflecting on his time with OSCA and his current position with the JQC, Mr. Teagle provides very insightful comments: "Both OSCA and the JQC share a commitment to the preservation of courts as a fair, impartial, independent branch of government where the public can turn with confidence for the peaceful resolution of disputes they are unable to resolve themselves."

The most immediate challenge(s) with which Executive Director Teagle was confronted after being hired was "the major public health crisis [of] the COVID-19 pandemic." He explained:

We had to protect our workforce, our commissioners and those with whom we come in and get our mission critical work done in an effective and efficient manner with as little interruption and as much continuity as possible. We responded to that challenge with a technology modernization project to allow our important efforts to continue unimpeded in a safe, secure, largely remote working environment. Out of the adversity created by this pandemic came practical and expedient adaptation and useful invention.

Mr. Teagle provides the following important information for the public to consider about the role and the scope of the JQC's work:

We exist to investigate allegations against judges who may have violated the Code of Judicial Conduct. We do not have the authority to intervene in individual cases, order judges removed from the cases they are currently adjudicating, or serve as a court of last resort where litigantsquite frequently our complainants-view us, incorrectly, as an alternative to appeal. In short, the appellate process, not the judicial disciplinary process is the appropriate avenue for people who disagree with the legal rulings of the judges assigned to their cases.

JQC CHAIR MICHELLE MORLEY REFLECTS ON THE JQC'S ROLE

The current Chair of the JQC is the Honorable Michelle Morley, Circuit Court Judge of the 5th Judicial Circuit. Judge Morley has served on the JQC since 2014. She served as Vice Chair and became Chair of the JQC in January 2021.

Judge Morley offers the following insights she has gained while serving on the JQC: "[E]veryone has a bad day. Accept personal responsibility for it when it happens to you and apologize to people you have hurt or offended."

As to guidance for Judges, she adds: "If you have a question in your gut about whether you should recuse, you should recuse. If you have a question in your gut about whether you should disclose a relationship with an attorney, witness or party don't hesitate! Disclose." She also shared some important words of wisdom from her mother: "The less one says, the less one has to take back."

From her service with the JQC so far, Judge Morley has learned that "[t]he Commission strives to do the right thing regardless of political or other outside influences, and the seriousness with which they take their responsibility." According to Judge Morley the "biggest challenge" that she faced while serving a Vice Chair was finding a new Executive Director to replace Mr. Schneider when he passed away, as she was asked to serve as Chair of the Search Committee.

Judge Morley leaves the reader with this important information about the JQC:

We have an outstanding General Counsel, Executive Director and staff. Those who serve as Commissioners are committed to preserving the integrity of the judicial branch. They are kind. They are empathic. They are realistic and reasonable. The composition of the Commission-county judges, circuit judges, district judges, lay people and lawyer-is well designed and proportioned as each Commissioner brings an important perspective to the discussion of grievances and charges.

CONCLUSION

The JQC's primary public responsibility since its establishment fifty-five years ago has been and will continue to be protecting the public from unscrupulous and incompetent Judges who preside over court rooms in the State of Florida. Furthermore, the Court and the JQC remain steadfast in fulfilling their constitutional duty by protecting the public and taking the necessary action to ensure that Judges are honest, fair, and do not impede the judicial process.

The above is an excerpt of the full article, which can be found online at the Historical Society's website. For ease of publication and reading, footnotes have been removed. The full version, with footnotes, may be viewed on the Historical Society's website.

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THREE PIONEERS OF FLORIDA'S JUDICIARY

Former Justices Joseph W. Hatchett, Arthur J. England, Jr., and Gerald Kogan (left to right) are pictured together in May 1990 after the ceremonial session of the Florida Supreme Court to honor Justice Hatchett's pioneering legal career. The Florida Supreme Court Historical Society organized and hosted the event to record an oral history of his many achievements.