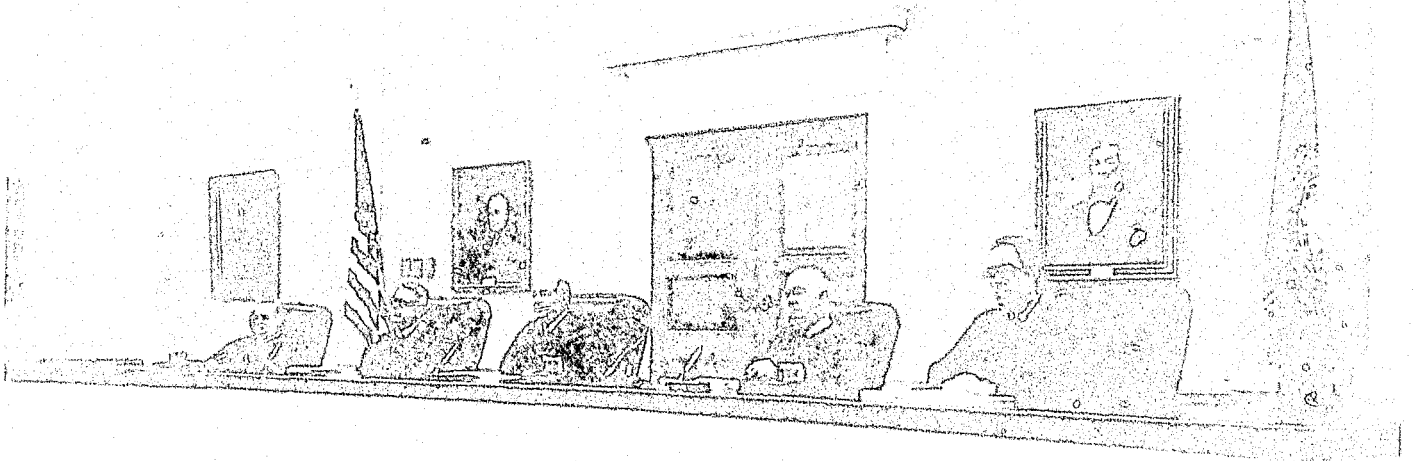


AN INTRODUCTION TO THE
SUPREME COURT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1977

SUPREME COURT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Appointed

Frank R. Kenison, Chief Justice	April 29, 1952
Edward J. Lampron, Senior Justice	October 5, 1949
William A. Grimes, Associate Justice	December 12, 1966
Maurice P. Bois, Associate Justice	October 5, 1976
Charles G. Douglas, III, Associate Justice	January 1, 1977

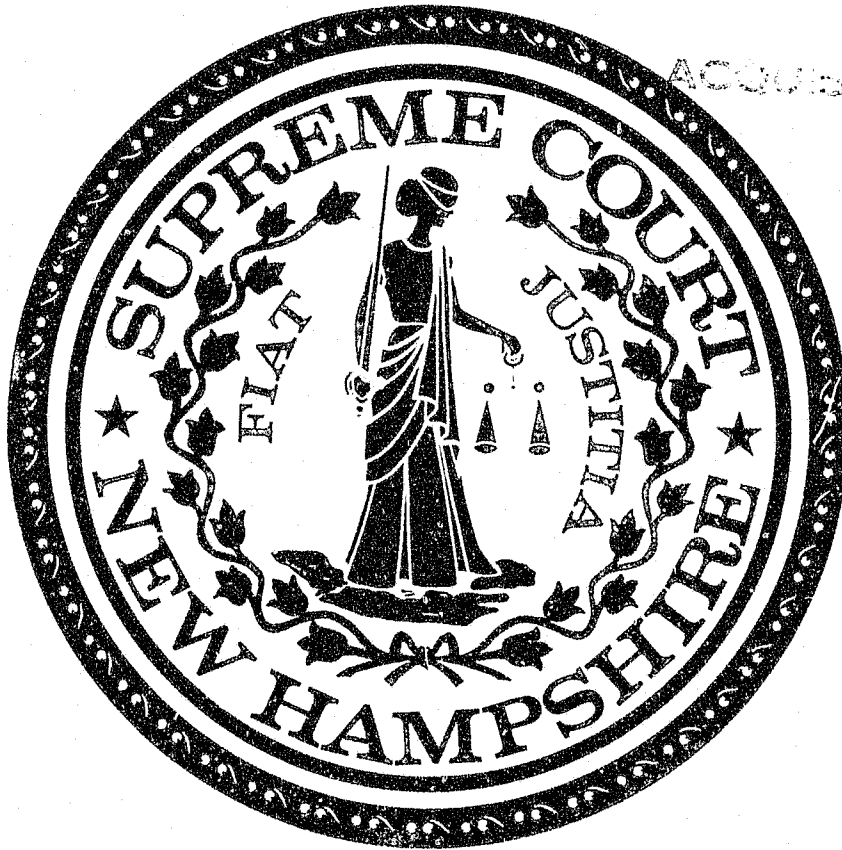
George S. Pappagianis
Clerk of Supreme Court
Reporter of Decisions

Supreme Court Of New Hampshire

NCJRS

FEB 22 1978

ACQUISITIONS



August, 1977

"I believe that our court has pursued a steady course throughout the years, that it has progressed and applied the principles of our laws in a manner consistent with the public interest and that all the judiciary will continue to be a safeguard to the liberties, responsibilities and dignity we cherish."

Honorable Frank R. Kenison, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of New Hampshire, "The State of the Judiciary," 3 MAR 77 House Record, page 501.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Appreciation is expressed to Carol Conboy and Thomas Watson of the Franklin Pierce Law Center, for their assistance in preparing this pamphlet and to Hank Nichols for providing many of the photographs which appear in this publication.

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I. Preface

This pamphlet is intended as an introduction to the New Hampshire Supreme Court. Hopefully students, teachers, and other citizens who are interested in expanding their understanding of the history and function of the state's highest court will find this information helpful and will consult some of the references listed in the bibliography. As you read through the text, you may find that some of the terms in *italics* are new to you or are unfamiliar in this context. Definitions of these and other words appear on pages 11 - 13. This pamphlet should not be construed as a detailed statement of law.

II. Brief History¹

New Hampshire's Supreme Court dates back to the birth of our nation and reflects the independent spirit of our state, as well as its commitment to an unbiased and forward-looking judiciary. On January 5, 1776, the colony of New Hampshire adopted a temporary constitution, the first written constitution adopted by any of the states. Pursuant to this constitution, on June 28, 1776, an act was passed by the newly-formed legislature that abolished the colony's court of appeals, consisting of the Governor and Council, and put an end to the practice of granting appeals to the King of Great Britain in Council. The Superior Court of Judicature, the forerunner of today's Supreme Court, was established and recognized as the only appellate *tribunal*. This court consisted of four justices and had *jurisdiction* and authority throughout the colony. Although the Court's make-up was altered twice, once in 1791 and again in 1813, and its name once in 1813, the Superior Court of Judicature remained substantially unchanged until 1855.

The judiciary was remodeled by *statute* on August 17, 1855. Under that act the Superior Court of Judicature was replaced by the Supreme Judicial Court, consisting of a chief and four associate justices. On July 17, 1876, following a two-year period when the Superior Court of Judicature had been reinstated, an act was passed that created the Supreme Court. New Hampshire's highest court has had this title since August 14, 1876. In 1877, the legislature expanded the Court by providing for a chief and six associate justices.

Prior to 1901 the Supreme Court held "law terms" at which *questions of law* brought on appeal from the courts were decided and "trial terms" during which *cases* were heard in each county. Originally, trial terms were held by all or at least a majority of the justices. The legislature recognized the burdens imposed by "circuit riding" and in 1813 provided for the holding of a trial term by a single justice. This act was repealed in 1816, however, and not until 1855 were trial terms again permitted to be held by a single justice.

¹ "History of the Supreme Court and the Judicial System of New Hampshire," West's New Hampshire Digest, Vol. 3 (Boston, Mass.: Boston Law Book Co., 1951), pp. IX - XIV.

On April 1, 1901, the legislature radically changed the structure of the judiciary. Two courts were established to take the place of the Supreme Court as it then existed. The Supreme Court, consisting of one chief and four associate justices, was given jurisdiction over matters formerly considered at the law terms. A Superior Court was given jurisdiction over matters formerly handled at the trial terms. This arrangement has continued to the present time. It has the advantage that a trial justice's ruling may come before a separate court of appeals of which the trial justice is not a member.

The only major change affecting the Supreme Court since 1901 occurred on November 16, 1966, when the state constitution was amended to establish the Supreme as well as the Superior Courts as constitutional courts. This means that these courts may only be changed or abolished by constitutional amendment, rather than by legislative enactment.

III. The Court's Work

When we speak of Appeals, by definition we refer to a phase of *litigation* which normally takes place after a case has been concluded in another court or in an administrative agency. An appeal presupposes that at least one of the parties is dissatisfied with the first tribunal result and wishes to continue to litigate *issues of law* which that party thinks have been erroneously resolved. The maintenance of an appellate system, then, rests on society's view that it is undesirable for at least some controversies to be the final responsibility of a single person.

The concept of an appeal on issues of law in New Hampshire is that another forum, the Supreme Court, will scrutinize the case; it will subject the first tribunal action to a careful examination of legal issues. Rather than deciding the facts of a raw controversy, the Supreme Court decides issues of law presented by a case record. Because the controversy has once been decided and "packaged," the dispute between the parties may have been put in a different posture. Issues which were vigorously contested as the case unfolded may have disappeared or been recast; new issues may have been born.

In the law term courts of New Hampshire's past, the *Writ of Error*, the ancestor of what we now call appellate review, dealt almost exclusively with correcting any errors committed by the trial court judge of this "packaged and decided" case.²

In this century, with a more fully developed legal system and more sophisticated perception of its function, we see the Supreme Court serving several purposes. Though their relative importance may be assessed differently, the primary purposes are:

1. To correct errors in trial court proceedings and to insure justice under the law to all litigants.
2. To pronounce and harmonize the *decisional law* of all New Hampshire courts and agencies. The decisions of the Supreme Court interpret the law so as to set standards that may be followed in future cases. (This is the "law-making" role in the English Common Law tradition.)

²In present-day practice, cases are entered in the Supreme Court by Appeal, Bill of Exceptions, Petitions, and Reserved Cases.

3. To supervise the courts throughout New Hampshire. This may include issuing and approving rules for the purpose of governing trial proceedings in courts throughout the state, in addition to the general supervisory responsibility to see that all cases in New Hampshire are decided in a fair, speedy, and economical manner.

The Court is also empowered by the state constitution to issue advisory opinions at the request of either house of the legislature or of Governor and *Executive Council*. These opinions concern the legality of actions which are being considered, rather than actions which have already taken place; they usually involve important questions of *constitutional law*.

The Court also has jurisdiction over admission of attorneys to the *Bar*, which procedure is governed by detailed rules established by the Court. Examination of candidates for admission to the practice of law is conducted by a Board of Bar Examiners appointed by the Court.

All judges are subject to a code of ethics, known as the Code of Judicial Conduct, that is enforced by the Supreme Court's Judicial Conduct Committee.

IV. The Court and Its Staff

The Supreme Court of New Hampshire consists of five justices, each of whom is appointed by the Governor and Council for a term of office which continues during good behavior and until the age of seventy.³ The Court holds monthly sessions, except during August, generally beginning on the first Tuesday of each month.

In order to aid the Court in its appellate work, the Court has a staff of fully-trained law clerks, and a Clerk of Court who is supported by a trained clerical staff. The Clerk's office is truly the gate through which all appellate proceedings must pass to reach the Court. For ready reference, each appeal is entered on the *docket*, assigned a number and indexed by the names of all parties affected. The Clerk is responsible for preserving all court files and papers, for keeping a docket record of all questions transferred, and of all *petitions*, bills of exception, appeals, *reserved cases* or other processes presented to the Court, and for accurately recording the names of the parties and the counsel who appear on their behalf and a brief description of the nature of the proceedings.

The Clerk records the *orders*, *opinions*, and *directives* of the Court in each case. He is authorized to make copies of all papers on file and of the docket itself and certify them under seal. He issues such records or other processes as the Court may order and charges the *fees* required by the Court. He accounts for and pays to the State all fees received on behalf of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court is also charged with the responsibility of appointing a suitable person to be Reporter of Decisions. The Supreme Court of New Hampshire has chosen to appoint the Clerk of Court to fulfill this function also. In fulfilling this role as Reporter of Decisions, the Clerk prepares a condensed statement of the substance of the law questions decided in each case and publishes the opinions rendered by the Supreme Court. These case reports are published and distributed in volumes entitled New Hampshire Reports.

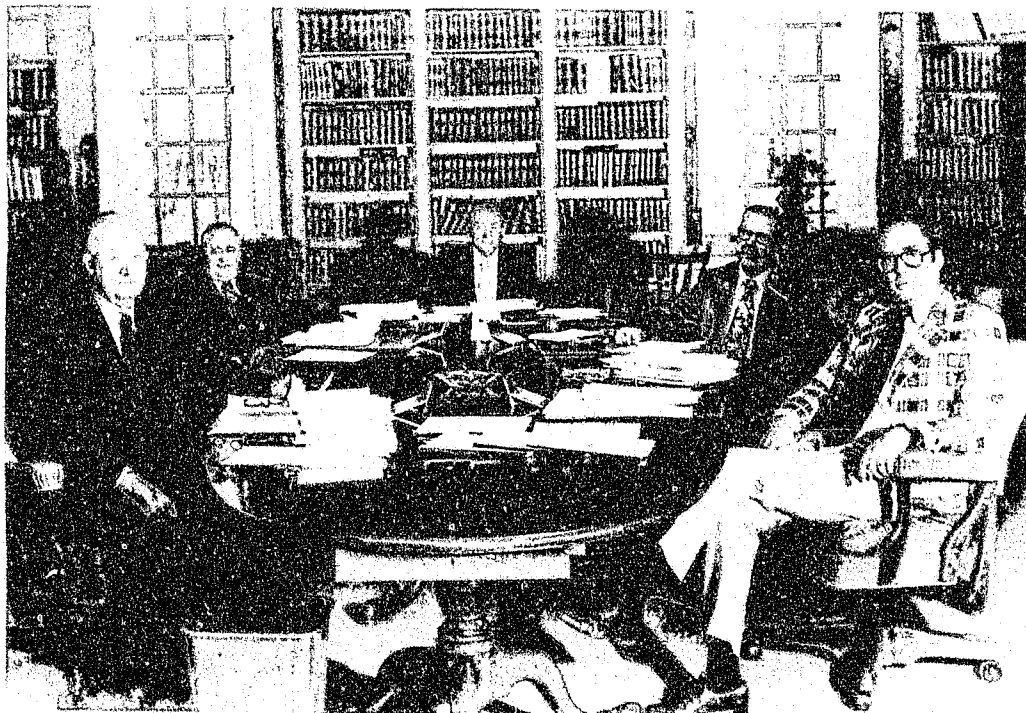
³A justice may be removed from office by legislative impeachment proceedings and by legislative address.

V. The Appeal Process

The Court's caseload has increased dramatically in recent years.⁴ Currently the court disposes over three hundred cases per year. The standard procedure by which a case is decided begins when the case is filed with the Clerk of Court, who assigns it a docket number. The Clerk then notifies the parties of the time for the filing of *briefs* and the month scheduled for *oral argument*. After the parties have submitted briefs, which present each party's arguments and legal reference, the Clerk's office distributes a copy to each judge. At oral argument, which takes about thirty minutes a side, the attorneys highlight the key points in the briefs and answer any questions from the judges. Unlike the trial courts, witnesses are rarely called upon to testify at the Supreme Court. Following submission of the case after oral argument on the briefs or without oral argument if the parties have so chosen, the case is assigned to one judge. With the help of a law clerk, who is also an attorney, the judge studies the cases, researches the law and writes a tentative opinion, which explains the reasons behind the proposed decision. This opinion is then studied by the other judges and the entire Court confers with the objective of reaching a unanimous decision. Although in most instances a unanimous decision is reached, a dissenting judge may formally indicate disagreement and may accompany the majority opinion with a written explanation of the dissenting vote, i.e., a dissenting opinion. Sometimes the Court issues what is called a "per curiam" opinion, one which expresses the decision of the Court but which is not attributed to any one judge. For decisions not in need of lengthy explanation, "memoranda" opinions are occasionally issued.

Opinions are normally handed down approximately thirty to sixty days following the time that the cases are submitted with or without oral argument, and all opinions are published in the New Hampshire Reports. The decisions of the Court are final except in those cases where provision is made by federal statute for review by the United States Supreme Court.

⁴Unlike the United States Supreme Court, which has the discretion to decide which cases will be heard, New Hampshire's high court must accept all cases which are within its jurisdiction.

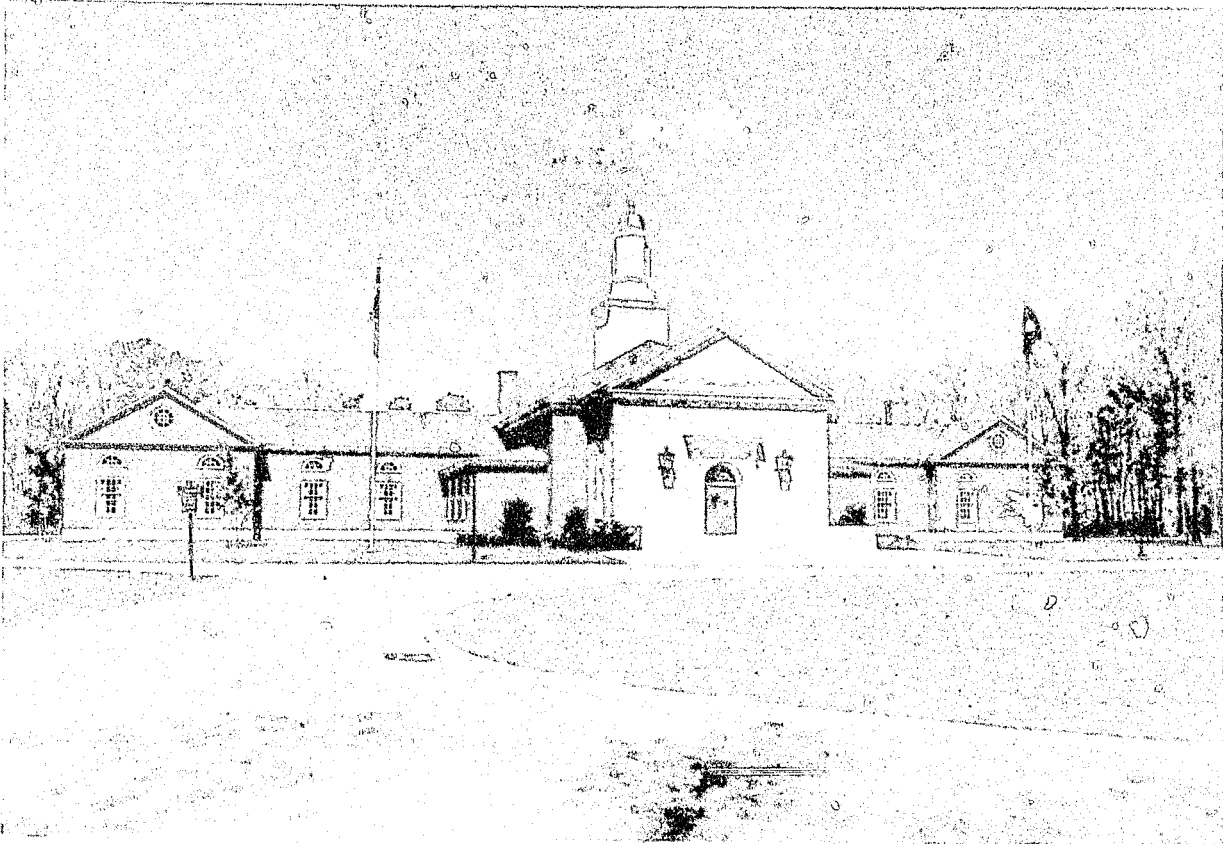


Conference Room

It is in this room that the Justices hold conferences and reach decisions.

VI. The Supreme Court Building

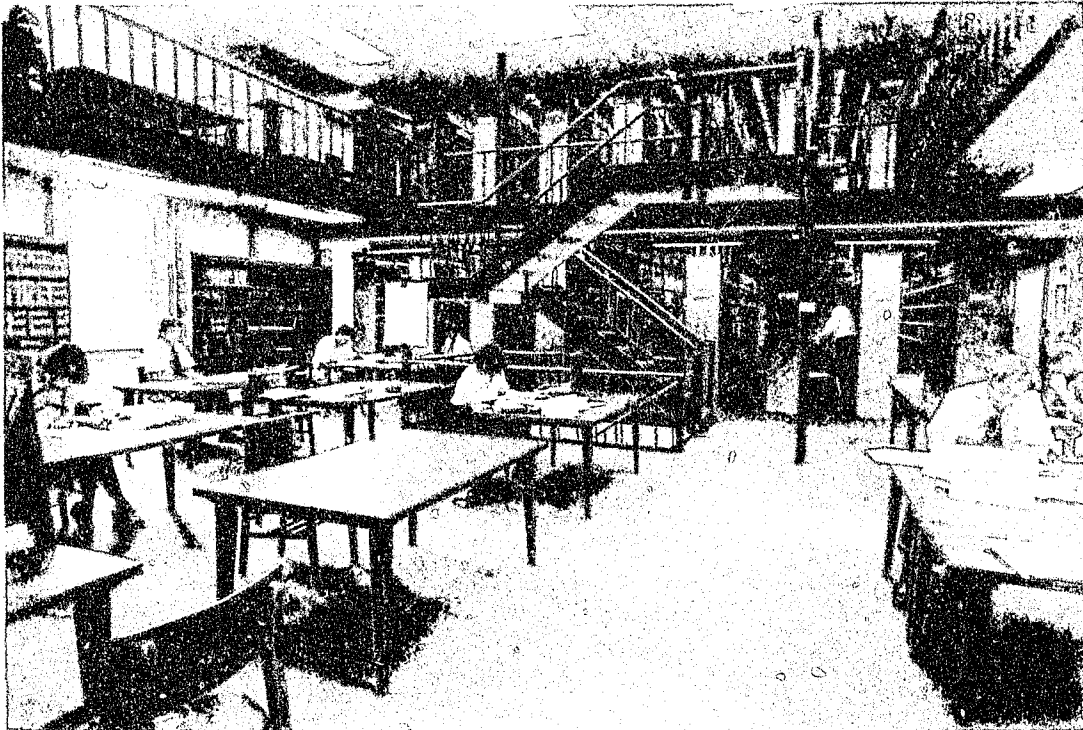
Since 1970, the Supreme Court has occupied a specially-designed building located in the state capital, Concord. The building houses a courtroom, conference rooms, offices, and the State Law Library.



VII. The Law Library

The Law Library is part of the Division of Law and Legislative Reference Service of the New Hampshire State Library. It originated in 1716 with a collection of law books belonging to the provincial government then meeting in Portsmouth. After the State House was built in 1816, a separate room was set aside for the State Library. For a time the Secretary of State also served as the State Librarian. In 1895, a separate building to house the Library was completed in Concord. The Law Library remained there until 1970 when it was transferred, with the Supreme Court, to its present location.

As part of the State Library, the Law Library is open to the public. It has a staff of two librarians and one library assistant to oversee the more than 70,000 books that cover all aspects of law except international and patent law.



Supreme Court Library

This picture shows book stacks and "work" tables that are available for use by all our citizens.

VIII. Appendix A

Definition of Court-Related Terms

- Act:* A written law passed by the State Legislature which deals with the interest and the welfare of the public. It may impose regulations, prohibit certain conduct, organize the government or define policy.
- Appellant:* The party appealing a decision or judgment to the Supreme Court.
- Appellee:* The party against whom an appeal is taken.
- Bar:* The official association of attorneys (judges, and other members of the legal profession) who are eligible to practice law before the courts of the state.
- Brief:* Written document prepared by the lawyers on each side of a dispute and submitted to the Supreme Court in support of their arguments. A brief includes the points of law which the lawyer wishes to establish, the arguments he uses, and the legal authorities on which he rests his contentions.
- Case:* A legal proceeding for the settling of a dispute or controversy between parties wherein the rights of those parties are enforced or protected; or wrongs are prevented or redressed. The proceeding can include hearing witnesses, viewing evidence, and listening to arguments by both sides.
- Constitutional Law:* The area of law which deals with the interpretation of the constitution. The constitution prescribes generally the plan and method according to which the affairs of the state are to be administered and the fundamental principles which determine the relations of the government and people. A constitutional law or action is one which agrees with the plan or fundamental principles laid out in the constitution.
- Counsel:* An attorney or lawyer who assists a person with advice and pleads for him in court.

Decisional Law:

Or common law, or judge-made law. The body of law which is comprised of case decisions, as distinguished from statutes passed by legislative enactment. The concept underlying decisional law is described by the Latin phrase "stare decisis," meaning "let the decision stand." Because our legal system is based on the premise that "like cases" should be treated alike, each case decision serves as precedent for future cases. In deciding any particular case, a judge is bound to look to the decisions of past cases, and although it is possible for him to deviate from precedent, he will do so only when overwhelming reasons are presented. The advantage of a system of law based on adherence to precedent is that each citizen can plan his daily affairs confident that the law will remain consistent - that he will be treated as every other citizen with whom he is similarly situated.

Directive:

A statement by the Supreme Court which serves to direct or guide the future action of parties in regard to a particular objective.

Docket:

The official list of cases which are entered in a court.

Executive Council:

A body of five elected officials which acts in unison with the governor in implementing the laws of the state and carrying on the affairs of the executive branch of the government.

Fees:

Prescribed charges for services of a court as established by law.

Fiat Justitia:

Let Justice Be Done.

Issues of Fact:

An example of an issue of fact is: "Did John Smith commit the robbery?" Such an issue is resolved by the jury (or by the judge in a "bench trial"); an appellate court may not make a contrary finding if there is any evidence supporting the fact found by the jury or the judge in a bench trial.

Issues of Law:

An example of an issue of law is: "Is it permissible for Mrs. Jones to testify that she had heard from Miss What that John Smith had committed the robbery?" Such a question of law is decided by the trial court, but may be reviewed and reversed by an appellate court.

Jurisdiction: The power or authority to hear and determine legal disputes. This power may be limited to certain areas of the law, certain stages of legal disputes, or certain geographic boundaries, depending on the court and from whence its grant of power comes.

Litigation: The process of taking one's disputes through the legal system to find a solution.

Opinion: The written statement by the Supreme Court of the decision reached in a case before it. It details the law which was applied to the case and the reasons upon which the decision was based.

Oral Argument: After each side has submitted its brief on an appeal to the Supreme Court, the attorneys are given the opportunity to argue directly to the justices. The justices, in turn, will ask questions of the attorney in order to clear up any vagueness or omission in the briefs. The objective of the lawyer in the presentation of oral argument and the preparation of a written brief is to persuade the court that his position is, or should be, the correct one.

Order: A mandate or command by the Supreme Court to the parties in a case, or other affected parties, calling for the performance or non-performance of a particular action.

Petition: A request for a decision by the Supreme Court on a question of law which has come directly to the Supreme Court.

Question of Law: A question involving primarily the application of principles of law to a dispute or case; in other words, in light of the actual facts of a case, how should the law be applied.

Reserved Case: A request to the Supreme Court to consider questions of law which arose in a trial court and make a final decision on them.

Statute: Same as Act.

Trial de Novo: A new trial or retrial held in a higher court in which the whole case is gone into as if no trial had been held in a lower court.

Tribunal: A court or forum made up of persons (usually judges) who have authority to hear and decide disputes so as to bind the disputants.

Writ of Error: A formal request to the appellate court to review the decision of the trial court in a case and to change the decision in the requester's favor. This form is no longer used in New Hampshire.

Appendix B

Justices of the Supreme Court of
the State of New Hampshire

Chief Justices

Meshech Weare	1776 - 1782
Samuel Livermore	1782 - 1790
Josiah Bartlett	1790
John Pickering	1790 - 1795
Simeon Olcott	1795 - 1802
Jeremiah Smith	1802 - 1809
Arthur Livermore	1809 - 1813
Jeremiah Smith	1813 - 1816
Wm. Merchant Richardson	1816 - 1838
Joel Parker	1838 - 1848
John James Gilchrist	1848 - 1855
Andrew Salter Woods	1855
Ira Perley	1855 - 1859
Samuel Dana Bell	1859 - 1864
Ira Perley	1864 - 1869
Henry Adams Bellows	1869 - 1873
Jonathan Everett Sargent	1873 - 1874
Edmund Lambert Cushing	1874 - 1876
Charles Doe	1876 - 1896
Alonzo Philetus Carpenter	1896 - 1898
Lewis Whitehouse Clark	1898
Isaac Newton Blodgett	1898 - 1902
Frank Nesmith Parsons	1902 - 1924
Robert James Peaslee	1924 - 1934
John Eliot Allen	1934 - 1943
Thomas Littlefield Marble	1943 - 1946
Oliver Winslow Branch	1946 - 1949
Francis Wayland Johnston	1949 - 1952
Frank Rowe Kenison	1952 - 1977

Justices

Leverett Hubbard	1776 - 1785
Matthew Thornton	1776 - 1782
John Wentworth	1776 - 1781
Woodbury Langdon	1782 - 1783
Josiah Bartlett	1782 - 1790
William Whipple	1783 - 1785
John Dudley	1784 - 1797
Woodbury Langdon	1786 - 1791

Justices of the Supreme Court (cont'd)

Simeon Olcott	1790 - 1795
Timothy Farrar	1791 - 1803
Ebenezer Thompson	1795 - 1795
Daniel Newcomb	1796 - 1798
Edward St. Loe Livermore	1797 - 1797
Paine Wingate	1798 - 1809
Arthur Livermore	1799 - 1809
William King Atkinson	1803 - 1805
Richard Evans	1809 - 1813
Jonathan Steele	1810 - 1812
Clifton Claggett	1812 - 1813
Caleb Ellis	1813 - 1816
Arthur Livermore	1813 - 1816
Samuel Bell	1816 - 1819
Levi Woodbury	1816 - 1823
Samuel Green	1819 - 1840
John Harris	1823 - 1833
Joel Parker	1833 - 1838
Nathaniel Gookin Upham	1833 - 1842
Leonard Wilcox	1838 - 1840
John James Gilchrist	1840 - 1848
Andrew Salter Woods	1840 - 1855
Leonard Wilcox	1848 - 1850
Ira Allen Eastman	1849 - 1859
Samuel Dana Bell	1849 - 1859
Ira Perley	1850 - 1852
George Yeaton Sawyer	1855 - 1859
Asa Fowler	1855 - 1861
Jonathan Everett Sargent	1859 - 1873
Henry Adams Bellows	1859 - 1869
Charles Doe	1859 - 1874
George Washington Nesmith	1859 - 1867
William Henry Bartlett	1861 - 1867
Jeremiah Smith	1867 - 1874
William Lawrence Foster	1869 - 1874
William Spencer Ladd	1870 - 1879
Ellery Albee Hibbard	1873 - 1874
Isaac William Smith	1874 - 1876
William Lawrence Foster	1876 - 1881
Clinton Warrington Stanley	1876 - 1884
Aaron Worcester Sawyer	1876 - 1880
George Azro Bingham	1876 - 1880
William Henry Harrison Allen	1876 - 1893
Isaac William Smith	1877 - 1895
Lewis Whitehouse Clark	1877 - 1898
Isaac Newton Blodgett	1880 - 1898

Justices of the Supreme Court (Cont'd)

Alonzo Philetus Carpenter	1881 - 1896
Geroge Azro Bingham	1884 - 1891
William Martin Chase	1891 - 1907
Robert Moore Wallace	1893 - 1901
Frank Nesmith Parsons	1895 - 1902
Robert Gordon Pike	1896 - 1901
Robert James Peaslee	1908 - 1924
William Alberto Plummer	1913 - 1925
Leslie Perkins Snow	1921 - 1932
John Eliot Allen	1924 - 1934
Thomas Littlefield Marble	1925 - 1943
Oliver Winslow Branch	1926 - 1946
Peter Woodbury	1933 - 1941
Elwin Lawrence Page	1934 - 1946
Henri Alphonse Burke	1941 - 1947
Francis Wayland Johnston	1943 - 1949
Frank Rowe Kension	1946 - 1952
Laurence Ilsley Duncan	1946 - 1976
Amos Noyes Blandin, Jr.	1947 - 1966
Edward John Lampron	1949 -
John Richard Goodnow	1952 - 1957
Stephen Morse Wheeler	1957 - 1967
William Alvan Grimes	1966 -
Robert Frederick Griffith	1967 - 1976
Maurice Paul Bois	1976 -
Charles Gwynne Douglas, III	1977 -

FRANK ROWE KENISON

Chief Justice

Chief Justice Kenison was born in Conway, New Hampshire, on November 1, 1907, the son of Arthur Edon and Isadore Rowe Kenison. He received his B.A. degree from Dartmouth College in 1929 and his law degree from Boston University in 1932. After being admitted to the New Hampshire Bar in 1932, he returned to Conway to practice law. He served as Carroll County Solicitor from 1935 - 1937 and Assistant Attorney General of New Hampshire from 1937 - 1940. He served as Attorney General from 1940 - 1942 and again from 1945 - 1946 after having served three years with the U. S. Naval Reserve. He was appointed Associate Justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court in 1946 and Chief Justice in 1952.

Justice Kenison is a member of the American and New Hampshire Bar Associations, the American Judicature Society, the American Law Institute, the New Hampshire Judicial Council, the State-Federal Judicial Council and the Board of Visitors of Boston University Law School. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts, and the Board of Visitors of the University of Chicago Law School.

Justice Kenison was a faculty member of the Appellate Judges Seminar at New York University School of Law from 1957 - 1970 and a lecturer at Boston University Law School. He was a member of the Commission to Prepare the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated in 1955, and Chairman of the Commission to Prepare a Criminal Code for New Hampshire in 1969. In 1963 and 1964 he served as Chairman of the Conference of Chief Justices.

Justice Kenison holds honorary doctoral degrees from Dartmouth College, Boston University, Suffolk University, the University of New Hampshire, Franklin Pierce College, and the Franklin Pierce Law Center. He received a Citation for Distinction from the American Trial Lawyers' Association, the "Robert Frost Contemporary American Award," in 1973 presented by Plymouth State College, and Doctor of Humane Letters in 1977 by Franklin Pierce Law Center.

Justice Kenison and his wife, the former Loretta M. Landry, have three children--Thomas, Mary Ann and Frank. The Kenisons currently reside in Concord.



Chief Justice Kenison

EDWARD JOHN LAMPRON

Senior Justice

Justice Lampron was born in Nashua, New Hampshire, on August 23, 1909, the son of John P. and Helene Deschenes Lampron. He received his B.A. from Assumption College in 1931 and his law degree from Harvard University in 1934. After being admitted to the New Hampshire Bar in 1935, he practiced law in Nashua until 1947. He served as solicitor for the City of Nashua from 1936 - 1946. He was appointed to the New Hampshire Superior Court in 1947 and to the New Hampshire Supreme Court in 1949.

Judge Lampron is a member of the American and Nashua (past President) Bar Associations, the Advisory Board of St. Joseph's Hospital in Nashua, and a trustee of the Nashua Public Library. He is also a member of the Association Canado-Americaine (Vice-president, Director). He was award honorary doctoral degrees by Assumption College in 1954 and Rivier College in 1977.

Judge Lampron and his wife, the former Laurette L. Loiselie have two children, Norman E. and J. Gerard.



WILLIAM ALVAN GRIMES

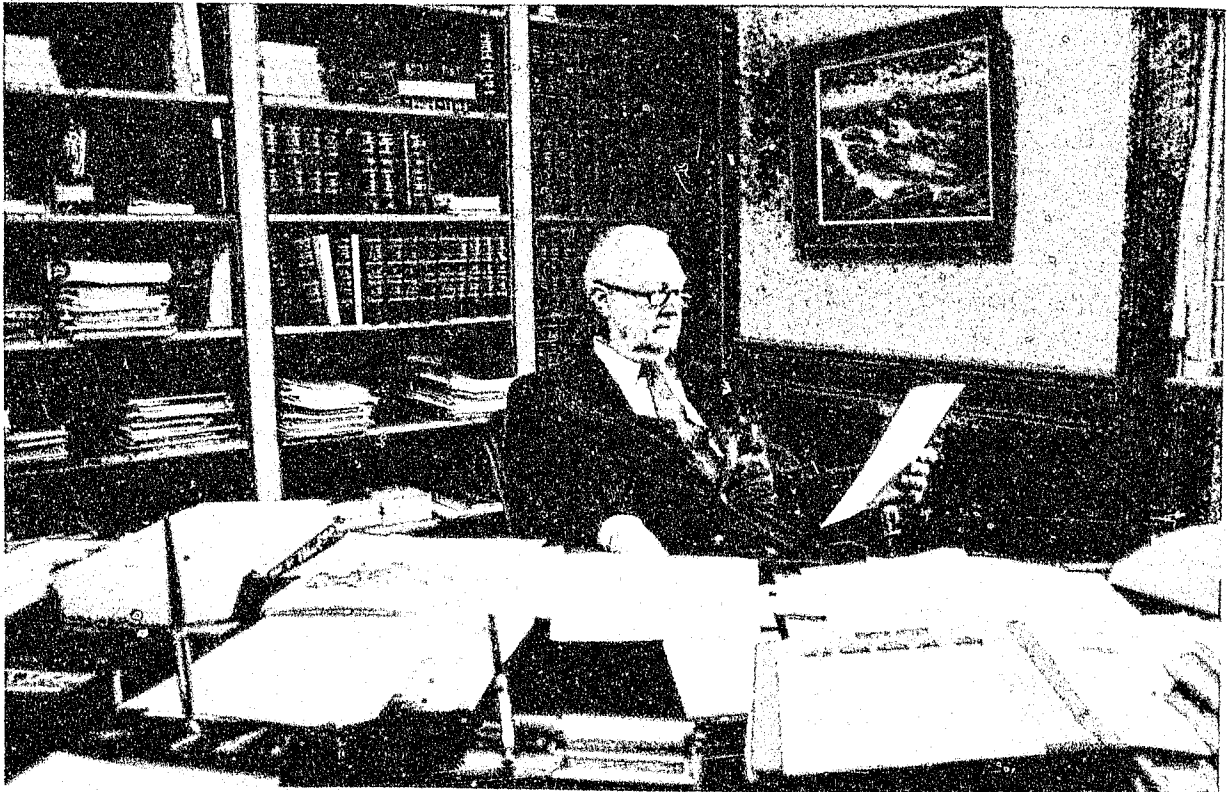
Associate Justice

Justice Grimes was born in Dover, New Hampshire, on July 4, 1911, the son of Frank J. and Annie Ash Grimes. He received his B.S. degree from the University of New Hampshire in 1934 and his law degree from Boston University in 1937. After being admitted to the New Hampshire Bar in 1937, he joined the firm of Cooper & Hall in Rochester and in 1941 became a partner.

Justice Grimes was a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives from 1933 - 1935 and from 1937 - 1939, and served in the United States Naval Reserve during World War II. He served as Solicitor for the City of Dover from 1946 - 1947. He served on the Superior Court of New Hampshire from 1947 - 1966, when he was appointed to the Supreme Court.

Justice Grimes is the Chairman of the Judicial Administration Division, a member of the Task Force on Appellate Procedures, and a member of the Committee to Investigate Federal Law Enforcement Agencies of the American Bar Association. He is a member of the Strafford County Bar Association, the New Hampshire Bar Association, the American Judicature Society, the Advisory Council of the National Center for State Courts, the Council of Judges of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, and is a charter member of the faculty of the National College for the State Judiciary. He was Chairman of the New Hampshire Vocational Rehabilitation Planning Commission, the Governor's Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the Appellate Judges Conference of the American Bar Association Judicial Administration Division.

Justice Grimes received the Centennial Award and the Silver Shingle Award from Boston University Law School and an honorary Doctor of Law degree from the University of New Hampshire.



MAURICE PAUL BOIS

Associate Justice

Judge Bois, born in Manchester, graduated from St. Anselm's College in 1939. He began his law studies by attending Fordham University Law School at night while working as a full-time insurance adjuster in New York City. He received his law degree from Boston University after having served in the United States Army during World War II. He was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar in November, 1946, and joined the law firm of his father, Thomas J. Bois, with whom he practiced until 1954. He served as United States Attorney for New Hampshire from 1954 - 1961, at which time he opened his own law office in partnership with W. J. La Flamme. He was appointed to the Superior Court in July, 1973, and to the Supreme Court in October, 1976, replacing retiring Justice Laurence I. Duncan of Concord.

Justice Bois is a Director of the American Judicature Society and served as Chairman of the Governor's Commission On Court System Improvement in 1973 - 1974.

Justice Bois is married to the former Yeteve Vezina of Manchester where they presently reside.



CHARLES GWYNNE DOUGLAS, III

Associate Justice

Justice Douglas, born in Abington, Pennsylvania, attended Wesleyan University from 1960 - 1962 and graduated with honors from the University of New Hampshire in 1965. After serving as administrative assistant to the New Hampshire House Majority Leader in 1965, he entered the Boston University Law School, from which he received his law degree with honors in 1968. While at Boston University, he served as assistant lead article editor of the Boston University Law Review. After being admitted to the New Hampshire Bar in 1968, he entered private practice in Manchester and Concord. From 1973 - 1974, he served as Legal Counsel to the Governor and in 1974 he was appointed to the New Hampshire Superior Court. During his tenure as Superior Court Judge, he represented New England on the Executive Committee of the National Conference of State Trial Judges and served on the Conference's State-Federal Courts Committee.

Justice Douglas was appointed to the Supreme Court on January 1, 1977, replacing retiring Justice Robert F. Griffith of Nashua. He is currently Chairman of the Supreme Court Judicial Planning Committee and President of the New Hampshire Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect. He is a member of the American and New Hampshire Bar Associations and Phi Beta Kappa honorary society. He is a captain in the New Hampshire National Guard.

Justice Douglas is a frequent contributor to legal publications with articles having been published on various topics in the American Bar Association Journal, St. Louis University Law Review, Case and Comment, and other publications.



Appendix D

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