The Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York

2010 GALA DINNER

Hail to the Chief

JONATHAN LIPPMAN
CHIEF JUDGE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

APRIL 8, 2010

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The Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York

The Society was launched in 2003 as a not-for-profit organization with the mission of preserving the legal and judicial history of the State of New York. It seeks to foster scholarly understanding and public appreciation of the rich legacy of the New York courts and the legal profession.

**Annual Series & Occasional Lectures**

The Society holds an annual lecture each year at the New York City Bar as well as lectures held at other forums across the State. The programs feature guest lecturers who are prominent lawyers, jurists and scholars, experts in their fields.

**2003**
- The Framing of the Constitution: New York’s Role
**2004**
- Chancellor James Kent and the Origins of Law Reporting and Legal Education
**2005**
- David Dudley Field and the Code Concept
- An Empire of Reason — The History of Federalism in America
**2006**
  - Frontier Justice: Western New York Blazes the Trail on the Underground Railroad and Down the Erie Canal. (Buffalo, New York)
**2007**
- The New York Court of Appeals: A Biographical, Pictorial, Jurisprudential History with Dramatic Readings
- Encore Presentation of The Scales of Justice: a Reargument of Palsgraf v. Long Island R.R. Co. (Nassau County Bar Association)
**2008**
- Courtrooms and Courthouses: What do they say? How do they say it?
- Society Gala: 80th Anniversary of the New York County Courthouse & 40th Anniversary of Hon. Norman Goodman, County Clerk and Clerk of the Supreme Court
- Ladies of Legend: The First Generation of American Women Attorneys, a joint program with the U.S. Supreme Court Historical Society
**2009**
- 2009 Society Gala: Honoring the Legacy of Judith S. Kaye

**New York Court of Appeals Lecture Series**

The Society co-sponsors the New York Court of Appeals lecture series held in Albany. This represents the first time this important building has been open to the public as well as Society members for an educational lecture series.

**2006**
- NY Times v Sullivan and its Times: The Press and the Community
  - Dreiser’s “An American Tragedy:” The Law and the Arts
  - The Shape of Justice: Law and Architecture
**2007**
- Democracy: A lecture by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer
  - Geoffrey Canada: The Courts and Children
  - Jeffrey Toobin: The Courts and the Media
**2008**
- David J. Stern: On Courts and Sports
• Owen Pell & Monica Dugot: Stolen Art
• Woodstock: The Music of the First Amendment

**SCHOLARLY PUBLICATION**
The Society publishes twice yearly, *Judicial Notice*, a literary publication of articles of historical substance and scholarship, including writings by distinguished historians, attorneys and other presenters.

**BOOK PUBLICATIONS**
The Society has published the following:

- **2006 Court of Appeals Lecture Series**: Compendium of three lectures comprising the 2006 Court of Appeals Lecture Series

**ORAL HISTORY**
The Society is recording the oral histories of prominent retired judges and other legal luminaries of New York State to preserve the living record of their experiences.

**DAVID A. GARFINKEL ESSAY CONTEST**
The annual David A. Garfield Essay Contest invites CUNY & SUNY community college students from across the State to write an original essay on specified topics of legal history. In 2009 awards totaled $1500.

- **2008** - The Courts and Human Rights in NY: The Legacy of the Lemmon Slave Case
- **2010** - The Evolution of Justice Along the Erie Canal

**NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM OF LEGAL HISTORY**
The Society is working with the New York State Court of Appeals on the creation of a museum dedicated to the legal history of the State to be housed in Centennial Hall in Albany near the Court of Appeals building.

**WEBSITE**
The Society designed and launched its website in 2003. It contains an extensive library, including portraits and photographs of judges and other notable legal figures accompanied by biographies; documents of important note in the State’s legal history; Society publications; and webcasts of our programs, including the Court of Appeals lecture series.
The Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York

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Former Associate Judge of the NY Court of Appeals

FILM PRESENTATION
Why Do We Need a Historical Society Devoted to the Legal History of New York State?

LIPPMANIZED!
INTRODUCTION
Hon. E. Leo Milonas
Former Chief Administrative Judge & Justice of the Appellate Division, 1st Department

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TRIBUTE TO CHIEF JUDGE JONATHAN LIPPMAN
Former Chief Judge of the State of New York Judith S. Kaye

REMARKS
Chief Judge of the State of New York Jonathan Lippman
JONATHAN LIPPMAN was born in New York City and raised on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. A product of the New York City public school system, he received his B.A. in 1965 from New York University, from which he graduated Phi Beta Kappa and cum laude, with a major in Government and International Relations. He received his J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1968, the same year he was admitted to the New York Bar.

Chief Judge Lippman’s career in the court system spans four decades, starting as an entry level court attorney in Supreme Court and including service as a law clerk in Supreme Court and Surrogate’s Court. In 1977, he became Principal Court Attorney for Supreme Court, New York County, Civil Term. In 1983, he was named the Chief Clerk and Executive Officer of that court, a position he held until 1989 when he was appointed Deputy Chief Administrator for Management of the statewide court system. In 1995, he was appointed as a Judge of the New York Court of Claims by Governor George E. Pataki, who subsequently reappointed him to a full nine-year term on that court in 1998. In 2005, he was elected as a Justice of the Supreme Court for the Ninth Judicial District. He also served as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Term, Ninth and Tenth Judicial Districts. From January 1996 to May 2007, he served, by appointment of Chief Judge Kaye, as the Chief Administrative Judge of all New York State Courts. As the longest tenured Chief Administrative Judge in state history, Judge Lippman demonstrated an extraordinary ability to promote and achieve reform. Whether the subject was modernizing the jury system, or drug treatment courts, or lawyer ethics and professionalism, or the local justice court system, or fiduciary appointments by judges, or matrimonial reform, or publishing court records on the Internet, or getting the courts through the aftermath of September 11th, or innumerable other difficult subjects, Judge Lippman played a leading role in bringing the New York courts into the twenty-first century.

In May 2007, Judge Lippman was appointed Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Department, by Governor Eliot Spitzer. In that capacity, he presided over one of the most influential appellate courts in the country. The First Department’s twenty Justices have jurisdiction over appeals arising from New York and Bronx Counties and hear approximately 3,000 appeals each year. As Presiding Justice, Judge Lippman also served on the Administrative Board of the Courts, the policy and rule making body of the New York State Court System.
In January 2009, Judge Lippman was appointed Chief Judge of the State of New York by Governor David A. Paterson. He was confirmed by the New York State Senate in February 2009. As Chief Judge of the State and Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, he presides over New York’s highest court while heading a statewide court system with a $2.7 billion budget, 3,600 state and locally paid judges and over 16,000 non-judicial employees in over 350 locations around the State. In his first year at the Court of Appeals, Judge Lippman has authored a number of significant opinions addressing constitutional, statutory and common law issues shaping the law of our state, the contours of state government and the lives of all New Yorkers.

Judge Lippman’s four decades in the courts have been marked by a deep commitment to fostering a system that is independent, open, accountable and responsive.
to the people it serves. He has pursued these goals with a work ethic, energy and passion that can only be described as legendary. He is widely respected in legal and governmental circles for his competence, credibility and encyclopedic knowledge of the courts.

Judge Lippman is active in court improvement efforts at the national level, as a member of the Conference of Chief Judges, and as a former President of the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA). He also served as Vice-Chair of the Board of the National Center for State Courts. In 2008, Judge Lippman received the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence, presented each year by the nation’s Chief Justice to a state court judge who exemplifies the highest level of judicial excellence, integrity, fairness, and professional ethics. Judge Lippman was selected for his “unparalleled ability to promote and achieve reform in the state courts. His
leadership in the New York courts has contributed to numerous improvements in that state’s justice system and has served as an example for courts across the country.”

Judge Lippman lectures frequently in New York and around the country, has published numerous articles and essays, and has received many awards and honors from the legal community. Judge Lippman was one of the founding architects of The Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York, and has been one of our most steadfast supporters from day one.

Judge Lippman resides in Manhattan and Rye Brook with his wife, Amy. Their two children, Russell and Lindsay, are also attorneys.
Jonathan Lippman was born and raised on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, the third of four boys born to Ralph and Evelyn Lippman.

The Lippmans were a warm, close-knit family that valued education and hard work. As the president and manager of the nonprofit Cooperative Village on the Lower East Side, Ralph Lippman was so devoted to representing the interests of the 10,000 tenants, and so effective at dealing with City officials, that he came to be known as the “Mayor of Grand Street.” Evelyn Lippman, an English teacher, was a warm and loving mother who instilled in her sons a life-long intellectual curiosity. It is not surprising that Judge Lippman’s brothers are all highly successful professionals: Jay is an ophthalmologist, Lenny is an obstetrician, and David is the manager of a large cooperative supermarket in California.

The Lippman home was filled constantly with the conversation and laughter of a wide circle of family and friends. “Jonny,” as he is known to family members, made friends easily, played his share of city games like stickball and basketball, and was an excellent student. He attended Stuyvesant High School, began taking college courses at age 16, and received his B.A. in 1965 from New York University, from which he graduated Phi Beta Kappa and cum laude. He received his law degree from New York University School of Law in 1968.

In the summer of 1967, while serving as a counselor at Camp Oxford/Guilford in Chenango County, he met and kindled a romance with a fellow counselor, Amy Fiedler. They were married in 1969 and moved to Westchester County where they raised two children, Russell and Lindsay, both of whom are successful attorneys. The Lippmans reside today in both their apartment in New York City and their Rye Brook home.
Jonathan the sailor

June 15, 1969

The Lippman men

Jonathan and Amy,
Camp Oxford-Guilford
Jonathan, Amy, Russell and Lindsay - The early years
The Lippman Family 2009
The Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York

2010 GALA DINNER

Jonathan Lippman

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