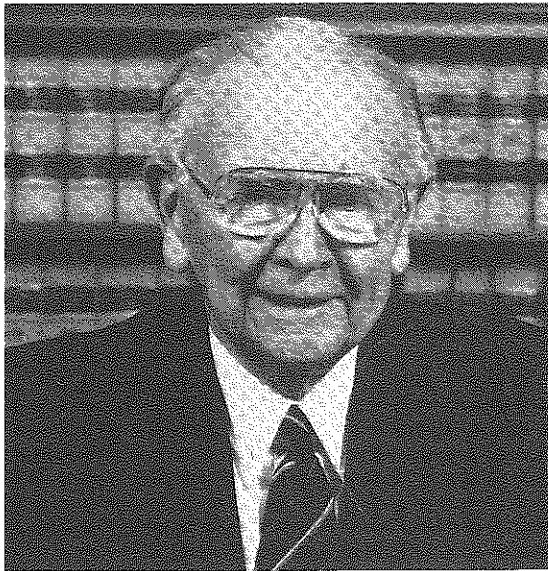


Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia

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Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Receives Ned Wolf Award at 15th Anniversary Reception



Justice Brennan

Richard Z. Freemann, Jr.
Chairman of the Board

Edwin D. Wolf
Executive Director
1974-76

Michael Churchill
Chief Counsel

Jerome Balter
Karen L. Black
Judith A. Gran
Frank J. Laski
Lisa M. Rau
Staff Attorneys

Peter Stevens
Newsletter Editor

Leaders and members from the entire spectrum of the Philadelphia Bar will join the friends and clients of the Law Center on Thursday night, December 14 to honor Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., for his more than 33 years of distinguished service on the U.S. Supreme Court.

PILCOP will present Justice Brennan with its Ned Wolf Award, named in memory of the Law Center's first Executive Director. The award recognizes Justice Brennan's "extraordinary commitment to the principle that the rule of law applies to all citizens, and to his consistent recognition of the historic role of the U.S. Constitution and the federal courts in protecting the rights of the socially and politically disadvantaged," according to Chairman of the Board Richard Z. Freemann, Jr.

"William Brennan has stood unwaveringly for a nation in which there is justice and equality for all" Freemann added. "He has been a powerful voice for the Law Center's clients."

Justice Brennan was appointed to the United States Supreme Court by President Eisenhower in October 1956. A key consensus-builder on the Warren Court, and an effective voice for continued protection of individual rights on the Burger and Rehnquist Courts, Justice Brennan has authored and shaped many of the landmark rulings of the past 30 years on questions of race and gender discrimination; First Amendment protections for the press, religious minorities and those who express unpopular views; and the rights of all citizens to participate effectively and equally in the election process.

He has also been a consistent and principled voice in dissent on issues such as the constitutionality of capital punishment, restrictions on the remedial powers of federal courts, and the narrowing of criminal suspects' rights. His extra-judicial writings have been critical in encouraging the current trend among state courts to go beyond the U.S. Constitution as read by the current Supreme Court majority in protecting individual rights.

The first recipient of the Ned Wolf Award was Bernard G. Segal, Esquire, who was honored at the Law Center's Tenth Anniversary dinner in November, 1984.

The Ned Wolf Award

The Ned Wolf Award is in memory of the Law Center's first Executive Director.

When in 1968 leaders of the Philadelphia Bar formed the Philadelphia Chapter of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, they invited a young lawyer, Ned Wolf, to organize the Chapter. Ned had worked initially for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, and later had supervised the juvenile division in the office of the District Attorney of Philadelphia. He searched for funding for the new Chapter, attempted to persuade the large law firms to take cases, and for the next five years ran the Chapter almost single-handedly.

In late 1973, William Klaus, the Chancellor-elect of the Bar Association, proposed to Ned that a full-fledged public interest law firm be formed with its own full-time staff. Ned agreed to be the Executive Director, and in July 1974, the Public Interest Law

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Law Center Initiates Community Service Award

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The Law Center Community Service Award, presented for the first time at the 15th Anniversary celebration on December 14, 1989, gives recognition to citizens whose involvement advances equality in our society by serving those in our community with the least resources—our homeless, our disadvantaged and disabled, and children just beginning the struggle to survive in a hostile world.

Marciene S. Mattleman is the founder and executive director of Philadelphia Futures, a non-profit organization mobilizing public support for youth, affiliated with the Philadelphia Urban Coalition. Philadelphia Futures enlists mentors and tutors, organizes achievement awards, and finds opportunities to motivate young people to prepare for college and careers.

Formerly Marciene Mattleman was the first executive director of Mayor W. Wilson Goode's Commission on Literacy, and she continues to work with Mayor Goode in his role as chair of the subcommittee on education of the U.S. Conferences of Mayors. She received her doctorate from Temple University, where she retains the rank of senior professor. She has written extensively on educational matters, both in professional journals and in the popular press.

Herman A. Mattleman is a practicing lawyer in Philadelphia. He was first appointed to the Board of Public Education in 1981, and was elected its president in 1983. He considers the District's educational advancements, fiscal stability and labor peace among the most significant changes that have occurred dur-

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Ned Wolf

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Center of Philadelphia came into being.

Ned Wolf had only two more years to live; he died of cancer in 1976. The Law Center continues, a testimonial to the vision and dedication he provided when he helped to found it 15 years ago.

Ned's law school at the University of Pennsylvania paid him this tribute soon after he died:

"Ned Wolf's presence and sympathetic pressure moved numerous lawyers and others into public service, and thus extended his impact beyond his own cases or those of the organizations he led."

J. Pennington Straus, in a note congratulating Ned when he received the Philadelphia Bar Association's Fidelity Award, wrote:

"Your career has been a marvelous example, too infrequently followed, of the good in the public weal that can be accomplished by an intelligent and dedicated lawyer."

The Law Center: A Lively 15 Year Old

Visit the Law Center any morning and you'll find its six lawyers busy with cases ranging from abatement of air pollution in Bridesburg to representation of persons in wheelchairs seeking access to SEPTA's subway stations. Four legal secretaries, three other paid staff and lots of volunteers keep the wheels turning. It is a scene of constant action: PILCOP cases in various stages of development require visits by our lawyers to Oklahoma, New Mexico, Illinois and Missouri as well as suburban Philadelphia, Johnstown, Harrisburg and other cities in Pennsylvania.

Overseeing the office is Chief Counsel Michael Churchill, who doubles as administrator and as litigator in civil rights cases relating to employment discrimination. He is assisted by two veteran attorneys—Frank Laski, head of the Disabilities Project, and Jerry Balter in the Environmental Project. Three younger attorneys, Judith Gran, Lisa Rau and Karen Black, have joined in staff since 1985 and are expanding the services provided.

PILCOP provides space for three citizen advocacy organizations—Disabled in Action (DIA), Delaware Valley Toxics Coalition (DVTC), and Philadelphia Advocates for Persons with Mental Retardation—all Law Center clients. Two private attorneys representing civil rights plaintiffs, Steve Gold and Ed Tiryak, also share space with the Law Center.

PILCOP has won notable landmark rulings and has negotiated successfully on behalf of dozens of clients over 15 years, and the phone brings many inquiries from individuals and groups seeking legal assistance. A close working relationship with other law centers, with private attorneys who take pro bono cases, and with CLS and the ACLU allows the Law Center to pass along many inquiries to lawyers who have the skills needed to provide assistance. An important part of PILCOP's current workload relates to overseeing the enforcement of decrees already entered in successful cases. Clients trained by Law Center staff in advocacy closely monitor compliance with court orders, and report new problems when they arise.

Defending the civil rights of our poorest and most disadvantaged citizens is an exciting but time-consuming task. Impressive gains have been achieved by the Law Center on behalf of the developmentally disabled, minorities seeking fairer employment practices, citizens exposed to dangerously polluted air, and abused and neglected children. Much has been done; much more remains to be done. The Law Center looks ahead to the next 15 years.

Some Current Law Center Cases

- * Preparation for trial is nearly complete in a major class action suit against SEPTA claiming racial discrimination or sexual harassment affecting more than 1,000 employees.
- * Negotiations are under way for a settlement for a woman corrections officer claiming sexual harassment by her supervisors.



The Law Center represents both physically handicapped and mentally disabled persons in efforts to improve the quality of their lives.

- * Settlement has been reached with the State of Oklahoma to close the Hissom Center and move 400 mentally disabled persons into community living arrangements.
- * Trial has begun in a suit to close two mental retardation institutions in New Mexico and move 500 persons into community residences.
- * A recently filed lawsuit seeks removal of 450 mentally disabled residents of Western Center in Allegheny County to community-based residences.
- * Michael DeVries, a 16-year old with autism, started attending a neighborhood school in Fairfax, VA this Fall after 2 years of litigation.
- * A citizen lawsuit is pending against Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Resources and the U.S.

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Symposium on Civil Rights Addresses Justice Brennan's Vision of Equality

The Law Center has assembled a distinguished panel to address Justice Brennan's contributions to upholding and protecting our constitutional values. The subject of the Symposium on Civil Rights on Thursday, December 14, 1989 will be:

"William Brennan: a constitutional vision of equality: will it survive attack?"

Panelists at the Symposium, which will be moderated by NBC National Correspondent Andrea Mitchell, are:

Nicholas deB. Katzenbach,
U.S. Attorney General 1964-66

Julius L. Chambers,
Director-Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense Fund

Elizabeth Holtzman,
former U.S. Congresswoman from New York and
Comptroller-Elect, City of New York

The Symposium offers lawyers, Law Center clients and other concerned citizens an opportunity to hear these prominent public officials, each with extensive involvement in the protection of civil rights, discuss their perspectives on the current challenges to protections of the rights of women, minorities, the handicapped and the poor.

Nicholas Katzenbach had an active role in Washington as U.S. Attorney General during the era when much of the modern civil rights legislation was enacted and upheld by the Supreme Court. A trustee of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, he authored one of the amicus briefs filed in *Webster v. Missouri*. His involvement with law enforcement and civil rights over this long period provides unique insights to the leadership of Justice Brennan during his tenure on the Supreme Court.

Elizabeth Holtzman has been an active participant in national efforts to enhance the legal rights of women, including leadership in efforts to enact the Equal Rights Amendment. A member of the Judiciary Committee sitting on the Nixon impeachment, she also brought the case challenging the constitutionality of the secret American bombings in Cambodia and successfully challenged racially discriminatory pre-emptory jury challenges.

Julius Chambers has had a distinguished career as one of the leading litigators of civil rights cases in the South. For the past five years he has seen the impact of Supreme Court decisions from his vantage point as head of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, and he has frequently argued cases before the Supreme Court seeking to win full citizenship for black Americans.

The Symposium is co-sponsored by the Law Center and the National Constitution Center, and is underwritten by generous gifts from four area law schools: Temple University School of Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Villanova School of Law, and Widener University School of Law.

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Current Cases

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Environmental Protection Agency to curb ozone pollution in Pennsylvania.

- Negotiations and litigation are under way on behalf of the Guardian Civic League to end the Police Department's use of rank order selection tests which discriminate against minorities.



The Law Center represents community groups in Roxborough, Bridesburg and South Philadelphia seeking protection from noxious emissions caused by City trash and sewage treatment facilities and by chemical plants.

- Negotiations are continuing on behalf of South Philadelphia residents seeking to change operating procedures at the City's sludge processing plant near the Airport.

- Negotiations were successfully completed with the Pennsylvania Department of Health on behalf of the Maternity Care Coalition to expedite nutritional aid and education for mothers and children.

- Franklin Smelting and Refining Corporation agreed to an extension of the Consent Decree calling for new pollution control equipment and personnel at its Kensington Plant.

Community Service Award

Continued from page 2

ing his tenure. Herman Mattleman graduated from the Wharton School and the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania. His volunteer activities and his writing reflect his interest in and concern for young people. He serves on many non-profit boards, all of which attempt to deal with problems of the City's less privileged. Among them are the Urban Affairs Partnership, the Police Athletic League, and the Northeast Treatment Centers.

The Guardian Civic League was founded in 1955 by a group of black police officers and soon developed into a force for improvement of the professionalism of the Police Department. Under the leadership of Al Deal, John Green, Harold James, and many others, it joined the struggle for affirmative action, opposed the use of excessive use of force by police officers, and improved relations between the community and the Police Department.

The Guardians have pursued their objectives with a variety of means and with steady persistence. They enlisted the Law Center's assistance for litigation. They have actively recruited to increase the percentage of black applicants. They have developed training sessions to increase the test scores of minority candidates. They have assisted minority employees claiming discriminatory treatment in background processing because of their race. Throughout their existence they have opened their ranks to women and have supported full equality on the force. And they have continued to speak out on ways to improve police relations with the minority community.

The community service award to the Guardian Civic League will be accepted on behalf of the Guardians by its President, Ronald Oliver.

Become a Law Center Contributor

We welcome your gift in support of the Law Center's operations. Please complete this form and mail it in. Your gift, added to those of many other friends, helps neighborhood organizations protecting the rights of Philadelphia citizens.

I/we wish to make a gift to the Law Center, and enclose my check payable to PILCOP in the amount of \$ _____

Please continue to send me the newsletters.

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