

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

JUDGE ALEXANDER J. NAPOLI

October 7, 1905 - July 12, 1972

The District Court for the Northern District of Illinois lost a distinguished and respected jurist by the death of Judge Alexander J. Napoli on July 12, 1972, at the age of 66.

Judge Napoli lived his entire life in Chicago. He was born here on October 7, 1905; attended grammar and high school here; and completed his education at the University of Chicago, from which he received a Bachelor of Philosophy degree in 1927 and his Juris Doctor degree in 1929.

In 1933, after four years of private practice, Judge Napoli became an assistant state's attorney of Cook County; he was sworn into that office on the same day as two other young men with whom he would later serve on the District Court for the Northern District of Illinois -- Judges Richard B. Austin and William J. Lynch; three years later he was married to Helen Martha Bibb.

Judge Napoli remained with the State's Attorney's office from 1933 to 1950; during that period he compiled an outstanding record, trying many of the most important and difficult cases prosecuted on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois.

Election to the Municipal Court of Chicago in 1950 was the beginning of Judge Napoli's long and distinguished judicial service. He subsequently won election to the Superior and Circuit Courts of Cook County, and was assigned for many years as Chief Judge of the Criminal Court, earning the unqualified respect and confidence of both the prosecutors and defense lawyers who appeared before him.

In 1966, President Johnson appointed Judge Napoli to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, and the Bar of that Court quickly learned the reasons for the high esteem in which Judge Napoli had long been held by the membership of the Chicago Bar Association, which overwhelmingly endorsed his qualifications for judicial office on each occasion when he ran for election and twice accorded him the highest rating of all incumbent judges seeking reelection.

Devotion to the law did not, however, prevent Judge Napoli from engaging in a myriad of other worthwhile activities.

He was a lifelong member of St. Anthony's Church and the Knights of Columbus, an active participant in numerous civic organizations in the Roseland area where he lived, and a loyal member of the Italo American National Union, Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans and Sons of Italy in America. He was honored for his professional and civic activities by the Justinian Society of Lawyers, which in 1970 conferred on him its Man of the Year Award.

At the invitation of the Supreme Court of Illinois, Judge Napoli in 1967 moved the admission to practice of a class of young lawyers which included one of his three sons. On that occasion, he spoke of the lawyer's role in society, saying:

"The office of lawyer exists to serve the people. In his dealing with clients, he must be held to the highest standards of the fiduciary, not merely to the rules applicable to the ordinary citizen. The very heart and soul of the administration of justice lie in a bar and bench of the highest ethical standards."

Judge Napoli's life was a testament to those beliefs and standards. He was a modest man, but his abilities were obvious to all who appeared before him and his integrity never in doubt.

He is missed by his fellow judges and the members of this Association.

BE IT RESOLVED that his memorial shall be spread upon the records of the Bar Association of the Seventh Federal Circuit.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE SEVENTH
CIRCUIT HELD AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ON MAY 15 AND 16, 1973

The Annual Judicial Conference of the Seventh Circuit convened, pursuant to Section 333 of Title 28 of the United States Code and Rule 15 of the Rules of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, at 9:30 A.M., Tuesday, May 15, 1973, in the Four Georges Room of the Ambassador West Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

Present were:

- Hon. William H. Rehnquist, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and Circuit Justice for the Seventh Circuit
- Hon. Thurgood Marshall, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States
- Hon. Luther M. Swygert, Chief Judge
- Hon. F. Ryan Duffy, Senior Circuit Judge
- Hon. John S. Hastings, Senior Circuit Judge
- Hon. Win G. Knoch, Senior Circuit Judge
- Hon. Latham Castle, Senior Circuit Judge
- Hon. Roger J. Kiley, Circuit Judge
- Hon. Thomas E. Fairchild, Circuit Judge
- Hon. Walter J. Cummings, Circuit Judge
- Hon. Wilbur F. Pell, Jr., Circuit Judge
- Hon. John Paul Stevens, Circuit Judge
- Hon. Robert A. Sprecher, Circuit Judge
- Hon. William J. Campbell, Senior District Judge
- Hon. William A. Steckler, District Judge
- Hon. Julius J. Hoffman, Senior District Judge
- Hon. Cale J. Holder, District Judge
- Hon. William G. Juergens, Senior District Judge
- Hon. Robert A. Grant, District Judge
- Hon. Omer Poos, Senior District Judge
- Hon. Edwin A. Robson, District Judge
- Hon. Richard B. Austin, District Judge
- Hon. James B. Parsons, District Judge
- Hon. S. Hugh Dillin, District Judge
- Hon. Hubert L. Will, District Judge
- Hon. George N. Beamer, District Judge
- Hon. Jesse E. Eschbach, District Judge
- Hon. Bernard M. Decker, District Judge