



HON. TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE

Chief Justice of California

HON. WILLIAM R. MCGUINNESS

*Administrative Presiding Justice, Court of Appeal,
First Appellate District*

HON. STEVEN JAHR

Administrative Director of the Courts

CALIFORNIA JUDICIAL CENTER LIBRARY

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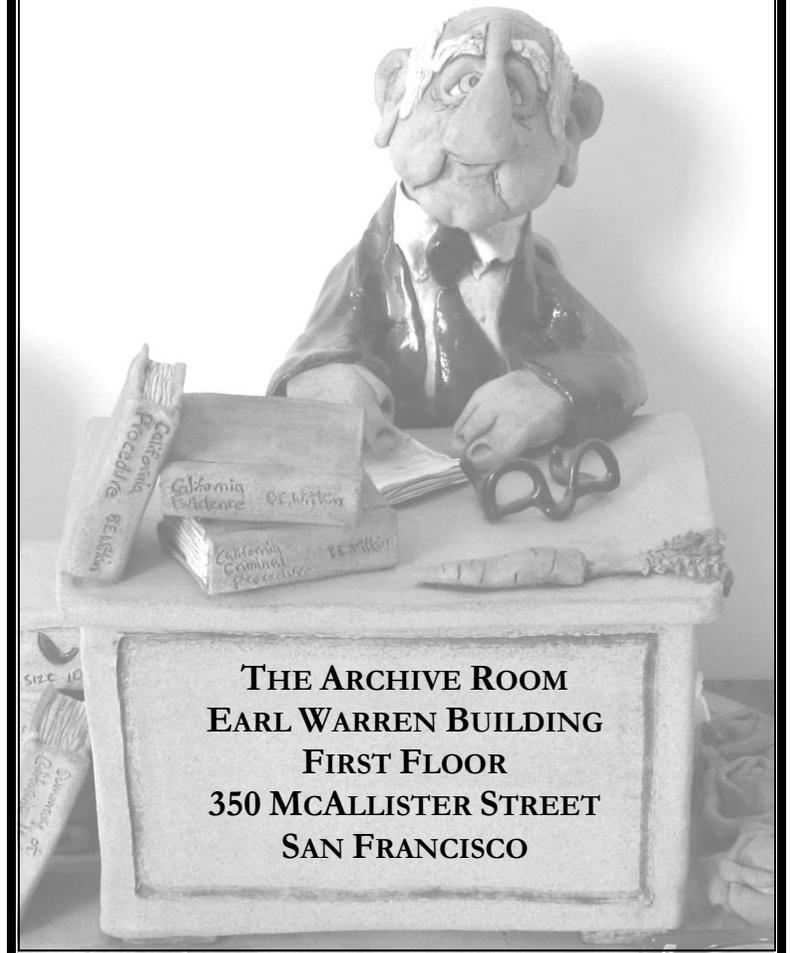
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Ceramic figure by Kathleen Kelly, 1984
<http://www.klayworks.com>

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ILLUSTRATIONS: IMAGES FROM THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES



In 2001 a new unit, Special Collections & Archives, was established at the California Judicial Center Library. The new unit was developed to collect and preserve the papers of Justices of the California Supreme Court in order to support the study of the Court in particular and of California legal history in general. In the twelve following years, sixteen collections of personal and professional papers were donated to the library. The majority of the gifts were made by Justices or their families but one collection, the Bernard E. Witkin Papers, is a record of the life and work of California's premier legal scholar and his unmatched contribution to the development of California law.

While each of the collections is an invaluable resource for the study of legal history, every collection also provides rich evidence, in images as well as in text, that these legal scholars and public servants, although bound by the rule of law, were uniquely and fully human.

In this exhibit the awards to Justices Wiley Manuel and Allen Broussard, the note of Chief Justice Bird, and Bernie Witkin's drawings illuminate their compassion, understanding and leadership. Cartoons celebrate the writing of Justice Stanley Mosk during his earlier service as California Attorney General. Books from their collections attest to the importance of humor in their lives, for, as Chief Justice Bird wrote:

The best part of life is the laughter.

ON EXHIBIT

VITRINE TWO:

Donated to the California Judicial Center Library in 2011, the papers of the Hon. Wiley W. Manuel document a life of achievement and service. In 1977, after 23 years with the California Department of Justice as a deputy assistant

VITRINE TWO (CONTINUED):

attorney general and a chief assistant attorney general, Wiley Manuel became the first African American to serve on the California Supreme Court. On exhibit here are Justice Manuel's name plate, a California Judges Association name tag and an Image Award from the Boys' Club of Oakland.

VITRINE THREE:

Presented to the Hon. Allen E. Broussard in 1990, the striking sculpture displayed here was created in recognition of Justice Broussard's many years of service to the California Center for Judicial Education and Research, the Judicial Council of California, and the California Judges Association. This depiction of a California Supreme Court Justice, with gavel in hand, is accompanied in the vitrine by photographs of the chambers furnishings of California Supreme Court Justice Stanley Mosk and the desk and typewriter of Reporter of Decisions and renowned legal scholar Bernard E. Witkin. Desktop signs from the Stanley Mosk Papers and the Bernard E. Witkin Papers are included here as well.

VITRINE FOUR:

Chambers furnishings of California's twenty-fifth Chief Justice, Hon. Rose Elizabeth Bird, were donated to the California Judicial Center Library in 2011. An article published in the *California Supreme Court Historical Society Newsletter* describes the celebration that marked this important addition to the collection. Selections from the Otto Kaus Papers, Joseph Grodin Papers and Bernard E. Witkin Papers also provide a glimpse into the era and the turbulent times that led up to the 1986 California Supreme Court retention election.

VITRINE FIVE:

While serving as California Attorney General in 1961, Stanley Mosk submitted a report to the Governor in which he described the politically conservative John Birch Society as formed primarily of "wealthy business men, retired military officers and little old ladies in tennis shoes." The highly publicized report inspired the mounted tennis shoe award on display here as well as a series of cartoons depicting "little old ladies in tennis shoes" by editorial cartoonists Frank Interlandi, Bill Mauldin and James Ivey. The John Birch Society continues in existence today with chapters in all 50 states.

VITRINE SIX:

In the 1920s, during his undergraduate years at the University of California at Berkeley, Bernard E. Witkin shared a house with three other young men. The four housemates were known as the "Ineffables" and many of their activities are documented in the Bernard E. Witkin Papers. The collection includes a series of sketches by Witkin of his college friends and housemates. Three of those sketches are on display here along with a drawing created much later in Mr. Witkin's career commemorating a "roast" that included noted trial lawyers Eugene Majeski and Joseph Cotchett.

VITRINE SEVEN:

In honor of his 80th year and his status as the only non-judge member of the California Judges Association, Bernard E. Witkin was presented with the "Happy Unbirthday" gift on display here. Created in 1984 by artist Kathleen Kelly, the ceramic figure depicts Bernie Witkin at his desk surrounded by his many treatises on California law and vegetables from his garden. Mr. Witkin's methods and his keen wit are evidenced in both

VITRINE SEVEN (CONTINUED):

the textual and the non-textual materials found within his papers. Examples of these materials include Mr. Witkin's writing tools; reading glasses bearing his name; layered, heavily edited, revisions to his work; books on legal humor; and monogrammed handkerchiefs. ❧

ONLINE EXHIBIT

The digital version of this exhibit can be found in the Exhibits pages on the California Judicial Center Library website, <http://library.courtinfo.ca.gov>

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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Joe Cera

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Winslow Small

Alba Witkin