

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

**2003
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

STATE SUPREME COURT

CHIEF JUSTICE



Jeffrey Lee Amestoy of Waterbury Center, Washington County, was born in Rutland, Vermont on July 24, 1946. He is married to the former Susan Lonergan, and they have three daughters. He was educated in elementary schools in Rutland, Vermont; Staples High School, Westport, Connecticut; Hobart College, Geneva, New York (B.A., 1968); Hastings Law School, University of California, San Francisco (J.D., 1972); John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (M.P.A., 1982). He received an honorary Doctorate in Public Administration, Norwich University, 1994. He has served the State of Vermont as counsel to the Governor's Commission on the Administration of Justice, 1974-76; Assistant Attorney General, 1977-78; chief prosecutor, Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Division, 1978-81; Commissioner of Labor and Industry, 1982-84 and as Attorney General for the State of Vermont from 1985-1997. He was President of the National Association of Attorneys General, 1992-1993. He served in the United States Army Reserve, 1968-74. Member: Vermont Bar Association, Conference of Chief Justices. He was appointed Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court by Governor Howard Dean, and was sworn in on January 31, 1997. Post Office Address: 503 Loomis Hill Road, Waterbury Center, 05677.

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE



John A. Dooley, III of South Burlington, Chittenden County, was born in Nashua, New Hampshire on April 10, 1944 and became resident of present town in 1972. Occupation: attorney. He was educated in elementary schools in Nashua, New Hampshire; Nashua High School, Nashua, New Hampshire; Union College, Schenectady, New York (B.E.E., 1965); Boston College Law School, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts (LL.B., 1968). He is married to the former Sandra Sapp. He previously served as Secretary of Administration, State of Vermont, 1985-87; President, Vermont Bar Association. Appointed Associate Justice, Supreme Court, June 12, 1987. Home phone: 862-7019. Post office address: 44 East Terrace, South Burlington 05403.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

Denise R. Johnson of Middlesex, Washington County, was born in Wyandotte, Michigan on July 13, 1947 and became resident of present town in 1996. She was educated in elementary schools in Wyandotte; Roosevelt High School, Wyandotte, Michigan; Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan (A.B., 1969); University of Connecticut School of Law (J.D., 1974); University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville, Virginia (LL.M., 1995). She is married to Thomas N. Wies, and they have a son and a daughter. She taught at Vermont Law School, 1978 - 1979; served as an Assistant Attorney General, Chief, Public Protection Division, 1980 - 1988; served as chair, Vermont Human Rights Commission, 1988-90 and was appointed Associate Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court, December 3, 1990. Member: American Law Institute, American Bar Association, Vermont Bar Association, American Judicature Society, National Association of Women Judges.



ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

Paul Reiber

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

Marilyn S. Skoglund of Montpelier, Washington County, was born in Chicago, Illinois in August of 1946 and became a resident of Vermont in 1973 and has resided in her present town since 1983. She attended elementary and high school in St. Louis, Missouri and graduated from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois (B.A., 1971). She worked in the Office of the Attorney General as: Special Assistant Attorney General (1978-1981); Assistant Attorney General (1981-1989); Chief of the Civil Law Division (1989-1993); Chief of Public Protection Division (1993-1994). She was appointed to the district court in 1994 and to the Supreme Court July 28, 1997. Post office address: 111 State Street, Drawer 9, Montpelier 05609-0801.

COURT ADMINISTRATOR AND CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT

Lee Suskin of Shelburne was born in New York, New York on November 14, 1946. He was educated at Great Neck South High School, Great Neck, New York; University of Rochester, Rochester, New York (A.B. Political Science, 1968); Columbia University School of Law, New York, New York (J.D.) 1972. He is married to Judith Raven and they have a daughter. Post office address: 136 Harbor Road, Shelburne 05482.



CIVIL GOVERNMENT

SUPERIOR JUDGE

Karen R. Carroll

SUPERIOR JUDGE

Geoffrey W. Crawford

SUPERIOR JUDGE

William Cohen of Rutland, Rutland County, Vermont.

SUPERIOR JUDGE



Amy Marie Davenport of Montpelier, Washington County, was born in New York, New York on August 20, 1947 and became a resident of Montpelier in 1977. She was educated in elementary schools in New York, New York, London, England and Grenoble, France and received her secondary education at The Chapin School, New York, New York. She graduated from Stanford University in Palo Alto, California (B.A., 1969) and was admitted to the Vermont bar in 1982 after a four-year clerkship. She is married to John R. Durrance, Jr. She has one son and one daughter. Member of the House of Representatives: 1985-86, 1987-88, 1989-90. Appointed Superior Court Judge in October of 1990.

SUPERIOR JUDGE

Katherine (Kate) A. Hayes of Montpelier, Washington County, was born in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, on April 3, 1958. She received her A.B. from Bryn Mawr College, magna cum laude, in 1980. She received her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1982. She served as a public defender in Bennington from 1984 to 1986, was in private practice with the firm of Barr, Sternberg & Moss from 1986 to 1997, and served as an assistant attorney general from 1998 until fall 2002. She is married to Thomas G. Franks, and has one son. Post office address: 54 Liberty Street, Montpelier 05602.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

SUPERIOR JUDGE

David A. Howard of Bennington, Bennington County, was born in Bellows Falls, Vermont on April 19, 1951. He attended the University of Vermont (B.A. 1973) and Boston College Law School (J.D. 1976). He was a Vermont public defender from 1978 to 1992 and was in private practice from 1992 until his appointment to the bench in January 1998. He is married to Diane Lynch Howard and they have two sons. Mailing address: Vermont District Court, 1 Veterans Memorial Drive, Bennington 05201.

SUPERIOR JUDGE

David A. Jenkins of Burlington, Chittenden County, was born in Springfield, Massachusetts on February 6, 1935 and became resident of present town in October, 1939. He was educated in elementary schools in Burlington; Burlington High School; Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire (A.B., 1957); University of Connecticut School of Law, West Hartford, Connecticut (J.D., 1965). He is married to the former Susan M. Killebrew, and they have two daughters. Post office address: P.O. Box 187, Burlington 05401.



SUPERIOR JUDGE

Matthew I. Katz of Burlington, Chittenden County, was born in New York, New York on August 6, 1946 and became resident of present town in June, 1970. He was educated in elementary schools in Queens Village, New York; Van Buren High School, Queens Village, New York; Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut (B.A., 1967); Rutgers Law School, Newark, New Jersey (J.D., 1970). He is married to Elaine Kaplan, and they have one son. Post office address: P.O. Box 187, Burlington 05402.



SUPERIOR JUDGE

M. Kathleen Manley of Lyndon, Caledonia County, was born in Ilion, New York on July 10, 1953. She received a B.A. from New England College, Henniker, New Hampshire in 1975 and a J.D. from Western New England College School of Law, Springfield, Massachusetts in 1980. She was in private practice in central New York from 1980-1988 and in St. Johnsbury, Vermont from 1988-1992. She was appointed Family Court Magistrate in October 1992 and Superior Court Judge in January 1998. She has one daughter.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT



SUPERIOR JUDGE

Richard Walsh Norton was born in Rutland, Vermont on April 6, 1937. He was educated in local schools and graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy in 1955; the University of Vermont (B.A., 1962); and Boston College School of Law (J.D., 1965). He is married to the former Mary Louise Dente of Barre, and they have four children. Post office address: 7 Kingsley Avenue, Rutland 05701.

SUPERIOR JUDGE

Dennis R. Pearson was educated at Residential College at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan (B.A., 1974); New York University Law School (J.D., 1977). While attending the New York University Law School, he was a staff member of the NYU Law Review and was a Law Clinic employee for the Legal Services for the Elderly Poor. From 1978 to 1979 he was the Senior Law Clerk to Hon. Thomas D. Lambros, United States District Judge, N.D. Ohio. From 1980 to 1983, he was an Associate Attorney at Coudert Brothers, New York, New York, dealing in commercial, first amendment and copyright litigation. From 1983 to January 30, 2001, he was Associate Shareholder (1983-1989) and Director (1989-2001) at Gravel and Shea, Burlington, Vermont, dealing in commercial, first amendment and miscellaneous civil litigation; zoning and land use permit law. On February 5, 2001, he became a General Trial/Superior Court Judge, with the State of Vermont.



SUPERIOR JUDGE

Mary Miles Teachout of Norwich, Windsor County, was born on June 29, 1945. She received a BA from Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges in 1968, having also attended the University of Sussex in England in 1965-66. She attended the University of Washington Law School (J.D., 1975); and Harvard Law School (1974-75) and was on the Washington Law Review and a member of the Order of the Coif Honorary Society. She was in private practice in Norwich from 1976-1992 and was chair of the State Board of Appraisers (1984-1992). She is married to Peter R. Teachout, formerly of Montpelier, and they have five children. Post office address: P.O. Box 159, Norwich 05055.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

SUPERIOR JUDGE

Helen M. Toor of Burlington, Chittenden County, was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1956. She graduated from the University of Vermont in 1978 with a B.A. in Environmental Studies and obtained her J.D. from the University of Chicago in 1982. She was a litigation associate at the law firm of Rosenman & Colin in New York City from 1982 to 1987, an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York from 1987 to 1989, and Chief of the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Vermont from 1989 until 1999, when she was appointed to the bench. From 1994 to 1999 she was a member of the District 4 Environmental Commission, of which she was Chair since 1997. She was Chair of the Civil Law Subcommittee of the U.S. District Court Advisory Committee from 1998 to 1999, and a member of the Civil Justice Reform Advisory Group of the U.S. District Court from 1991 to 1998. She was also an Associate of the Vermont Leadership Institute in 1997, Chair of the Federal Affairs Committee of the Vermont Bar Association in 1994, and Vice-Chair of the VBA's Government and Non-Profit Section in 1993. She has been an instructor at the Harvard Law School Trial Advocacy Workshop and at the Department of the Justice's Civil Trial Advocacy Course. Mailing address: Court Administrator's Office, 109 State Street, Montpelier 05609.



SUPERIOR JUDGE

Howard E. VanBenthuyzen of Fairfax, Franklin County, was born in Burlington, Vermont on December 11, 1951. He graduated from South Burlington High School in 1969 and attended the University of Vermont, graduating with a B.A. (cum laude) in 1973. He earned a Masters of Education degree from Colorado State University in 1976, and his J.D. (cum laude) from Albany Law School in 1982. During law school he was an author and Editor of the Albany Law Review, and clerked for the Bennington Public Defender (1980) and the U.S. Attorney's Office (1981). Judge VanBenthuyzen was employed by the Burlington Firm of Desautels and Bergeron from 1982-1985, and became a Franklin County Deputy State's Attorney in 1985. He served as Franklin County State's Attorney from 1986-1995, re-entering private practice with Rainville & Associates of St. Albans in that year. He was appointed to the Superior Court on July 22, 1997. He is a veteran of the United States Coast Guard, and has served on many community service boards and organizations including the Franklin Home Health Agency, Northwestern Medical Center, the Rotary Club of St. Albans, the Franklin Free Legal Clinic, the Green Mountain Club and Vermont Maple Sugarmakers Association. He lives in Franklin County with his wife and two children.

SUPERIOR JUDGE

John P. Wesley of Brattleboro, Vermont, was born in Burlington, Vermont on October 8, 1948. He graduated from Middlebury Union High School in 1966; Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut in 1970; the National Law Center at George Washington University, Washington, D.C. in 1974. Post Office Address: Windsor Family Court, P.O. Box 516, White River Junction 05001.



CIVIL GOVERNMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL JUDGE



Merideth Wright of East Montpelier, Washington County, was born in New York, New York on March 21, 1950 and became a resident of Vermont in 1978. She was educated at The Fieldston School; Yale University (B.A., 1971); University of Chicago Law School (J.D., 1974). She is married to Frederic R. Emigh, and they have one son and one daughter. She has been an Assistant Attorney General, Vermont (1978-1986) and Deputy Staff Attorney, Vermont Supreme Court (1987-1990) and has taught at the University of Vermont and the Vermont Law School. She was appointed Environmental Judge on November 2, 1990. Post office address: P.O. Box 686, Montpelier 05601-0686.

DISTRICT JUDGE

Brian L. Burgess of Montpelier, Washington County, was born in Washington, D.C., on January 14, 1951 and became resident of present town in 1978. After finishing high school in Virginia, he attended the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts (B.A., 1973) and Villanova University School of Law, Villanova, Pennsylvania (J.D., 1976). He served as an Assistant Attorney General (1978-1983), Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner of the Department of Labor & Industry (1983-1984), and Deputy Attorney General (1985-1992). He is married to Maureen O'Connor and has two sons. Post office address: Court Administrator's Office, 109 State Street, Montpelier 05609.

DISTRICT JUDGE



Edward J. Cashman of Essex, Chittenden County. Appointed District Judge by Richard Snelling in January of 1982. He has served as a trial judge in ten of Vermont's fourteen counties over the years. He is a graduate of Boston College (1965) and the Washington College of Law (1968). He served with the U.S. Army including a tour of duty in Vietnam (1969-1971). He married Gail Sylvester formerly of Saint Albans in 1966. She worked as an emergency room nurse at Fanny Allen Hospital for 25 years. They have three children: Jeffrey, a pilot with Vermont National Guard, Michael, a law student and faculty member at the University of South Carolina, and Brooke, a graduate student at The American University in Washington, D.C. Judge Cashman has served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Vermont (1971-72); Chittenden County Clerk (1973-75), Commissioner of Public Service (1975-1978), Grand Isle County State's Attorney (1978-1982). He has also held local government positions with the Village and Town of Essex as Planning Commission member and Town Agent. He maintained a private practice of law for ten years. Judge Cashman taught courses at the University of Vermont and Johnson State College in Environmental Law and the Law of Zoning and Planning. He presently teaches a course at Johnson State College in Constitutional Law. He has taught at the National Judicial College on the topic of Restorative Justice and Community Based Court Systems. He has held positions with the Vermont Dismas House Board of Directors, the Saint Lawrence Parish Council and the Knights of Columbus. He is a past president of the Vermont Trial Judges Association and the Chittenden County Bar Association. He is a member of the Franklin County, Chittenden County and Vermont Bar Associations. He serves on the Civil Rules Advisory Committee. His mailing address is 29 Lamoille Street, Essex Junction 05452. E-mail is Ejc29@aol.com or cashman@chitdis.crt.state.vt.us.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

DISTRICT JUDGE

Alan W. Cook was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts on November 29, 1941 and became resident of present town in July, 1971. He was educated in elementary schools in New Bedford, Massachusetts; New Bedford High School; Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont (B.A., Government 1963); Boston University School of Law (J.D., 1966); Boston University Graduate School (M.A., International Relations, 1969). He served in the U.S. Army, Judge Advocate General's Corps; presently Colonel, Army Reserve retired. Post office address: Office of the Court Administrator, 109 State Street, Montpelier 05609-0701.



DISTRICT JUDGE

Nancy Stalcup Corsones of Rutland.

DISTRICT JUDGE

James R. Crucitti of Essex.

DISTRICT JUDGE

Theresa S. DiMauro of West Windsor, Windsor County, was born in Athol, Massachusetts on November 11, 1954 and became resident of present town in 1994. She was educated in elementary schools in Petersham, Massachusetts; Mahar Regional High School, Orange, Massachusetts; University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts (B.A., 1980); Western New England College of Law, Springfield, Massachusetts (J.D., 1983). Religious preference: Roman Catholic. Post office address: RR 1, Box 1029, Windsor 05089.

DISTRICT JUDGE

Jane Gomez Dimotsis of Moretown, Washington County, was born in Montpelier, Vermont on May 16, 1952. She graduated from Montpelier High School in 1970; attended UVM; and graduated from the External Degree Program at Johnson State College in May 1979. She graduated from Vermont Law School (cum laude) in 1987 where she was on the Vermont Law Review and won the Moot Court Competition in 1986. She worked for the Attorney General's Office from 1988 to 1996 following a trial court judicial clerkship. She sat as a Family Court Magistrate for approximately three years before her appointment May 18, 1999, to the District Court bench. She was married to Michael Dimotsis in 1978. Post Office Address: 72 Bradley Road, Moretown 05660.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

DISTRICT JUDGE

Ben Joseph of North Hero.

DISTRICT JUDGE

Mark J. Keller of South Hero, Grand Isle County, was born on June 9, 1951 in Burlington, Vermont. Raised in Burlington, he graduated from St. Michael's College in 1973 and graduated from University of Notre Dame Law School in 1976. In 1977, Mark became a deputy state's attorney and was appointed and then elected Chittenden County State's Attorney. In 1983, he entered private practice where he remained until his appointment to Vermont District Judge in 1999. He is married to Brenda Pitmon and has two children. Post office address: 5 Chase Lane, South Hero 05486.

DISTRICT JUDGE



Michael S. Kupersmith of South Burlington, Chittenden County, was born in Oceanside, New York on January 6, 1943 and became resident of present town in December of 1986. He was educated in elementary schools in Cedarhurst, New York; graduated from Lawrence High School, Lawrence, New York; Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island (A.B., 1964); and New York University School of Law, New York, New York (J.D., 1968). He is married to the former Michele Ferland, and they have two sons. Appointed District Judge in April, 1987. He is a member of the Vermont Trial Judges' Association (Chair 1995-1996); Vermont Bar Association; Chittenden County Bar Association. Home phone number: 863-1814. Post office address: 32 Cherry Street, Suite 300, Burlington 05401.

DISTRICT JUDGE



Linda Levitt of Williston, Chittenden County, was born in Woodmere, New York on August 8, 1948 and became resident of present town in August, 1989. She was educated in Hewlett, New York public schools; New York University, New York, New York (B.A., 1970); Boston University Law School, Boston, Massachusetts (J.D., 1975). She was appointed District Court Judge on February 21, 1984. Post office address: 951 Sunset Hill Road, Williston 05495.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

DISTRICT JUDGE

Francis B. McCaffrey of Rutland, Rutland County, was born in New York City on April 17, 1936 and became resident of present town in August, 1969. He was educated in elementary schools in Manhasset, New York; Chaminade High School, Mineola, New York; St. Michael's College in Winooski, Vermont (B.A., 1958); Fordham Law School (J.D., 1961). He is married to Rita Whalen McCaffrey, and they have two sons and two daughters. Post office address: 12 Harvard Street, Rutland 05701.



DISTRICT JUDGE

Walter M. Morris, Jr. of Lyndon, Caledonia County, was born in Danbury, Connecticut on February 14, 1950 and became a resident of present town in 1988. He was educated in the public schools of Danbury, Connecticut; Mount St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg, Maryland (B.A., 1971); University of Connecticut School of Law (J.D., 1975); attended the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government, June, 1987; National Judicial College, 1993, faculty advisor. He served as Vermont Defender General, 1987-90. He was appointed District Court Judge on August 29, 1990. He is married to Catherine M. Boykin, and they have one son. Religious preference: Roman Catholic. Post office address: RFD 2, Lyndonville 05851.



DISTRICT JUDGE

Dean Bradstreet Pineles of Stowe, Lamoille County, was born in Beverly, Massachusetts on May 3, 1943 and became resident of present town in 1985. He was educated in elementary schools in Hamilton, Massachusetts; Mt. Hermon School, Northfield, Massachusetts; Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island (A.B., 1965); Boston University Law School, Boston, Massachusetts (J.D., 1968); Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (M.P.A., 1979). He is married to Kristina Stahlbrand, and they have one daughter. He is a member of: Vermont and Massachusetts Bar; U.S. District Court of Vermont, U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit; U.S. Supreme Court; Vermont Bar Association; former member Stowe Planning Commission. He has been Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., 1971-73; Assistant Attorney General for Vermont 1973-76; in private law practice, Stowe, 1976-77; Director of Professional Licensing, Vermont Secretary of State's Office, 1977-78; Deputy Commissioner of Health, Vermont, 1979-81; Commissioner of Labor and Industry, 1981-82. Counsel to Governor Richard A. Snelling, 1983-84. Appointed District Court Judge, July, 1984. He served in the U.S. Army, 1968-71 (1st Lieutenant, Infantry). Post Office Address: 111 State Street, Drawer 9, Montpelier 05609-0701.



CIVIL GOVERNMENT

DISTRICT JUDGE

David T. Sontag was born on October 20, 1952 in Brooklyn, New York. He was educated at the University of Connecticut (B.A., 1975); Vermont Law School, (J.D. cum laude, 1978). He was appointed district court judge in August, 1990. He has served as an Assistant Attorney General, Chief, Criminal Justice Division, 1985-90; Department of Corrections, chief counsel, 1983-85; Deputy State's Attorney, Rutland County, 1973-83.

DISTRICT JUDGE

M. Patricia Zimmerman of Randolph, Orange County, was born on October 26, 1949. She received a B.A. from Rutgers University in 1983 and a J.D. from Vermont Law School in 1986. Prior to being appointed to the bench in November of 1997 she was Windsor County State's Attorney from 1990-1997 and Deputy State's Attorney from 1986-1990. Post office address: 23 Weston Street, Randolph 05060.