

Oral History of

LEON THOMAS DAVID

(1901–1994)

EDITOR'S NOTE

The oral history of Superior Court Judge Leon Thomas David is one of four oral histories conducted by the former California State Bar Committee on History of Law in California in 1987. These were the final oral histories conducted by the committee, and they are published for the first time in the present volume of *California Legal History* (vol. 6, 2011). Judge David served as chair of the committee in 1977, and he was interviewed by committee member Raymond R. Roberts on January 16, 1987.

The oral history has been reedited for publication. Citations have been verified or provided, and the spelling of names has been corrected wherever possible. Explanatory notations in [square brackets] have been added by the editor. The sound recording and original transcription are available at The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley. The oral history is published by permission of the State Bar of California.

A biographical sketch of Judge David by Superior Court Judge Roger Alton Pfaff was published in 1962 by the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*. It is reproduced below as a brief introduction to Judge David's life and career.

— SELMA MOIDEL SMITH

Oral History of

RUTH CHURCH GUPTA

(1917–2009)

EDITOR'S NOTE

The oral history of Ruth Church Gupta is one of four oral histories conducted by the former California State Bar Committee on History of Law in California in 1987. These were the final oral histories conducted by the committee, and they are published for the first time in the present volume of *California Legal History* (vol. 6, 2011). The interview was conducted on September 28, 1987, by committee member Rosalyn Zakheim on behalf of the committee (which she chaired in 1988-89) and the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (of which she was president in 1983-84).

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Gupta served as president of the Queen's Bench Bar Association in San Francisco in 1953, and Ruth Rymer, who served as president in 1976, agreed to prepare the brief reminiscence of Gupta that appears below.

— SELMA MOIDEL SMITH

Oral History of
SHARP WHITMORE
(1918–2001)

EDITOR'S NOTE

The oral history of J. Sharp Whitmore is one of four oral histories conducted by the former California State Bar Committee on History of Law in California in 1987. These were the final oral histories conducted by the committee, and they are published for the first time in the present volume of *California Legal History* (vol. 6, 2011). He was interviewed by committee member Raymond R. Roberts on January 9, 1987.

The oral history has been reedited for publication. Citations have been verified or provided, and the spelling of names has been corrected wherever possible. Explanatory notations in [square brackets] have been added by the editor. The sound recording and original transcription are available at The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley. The oral history is published by permission of the State Bar of California.

Whitmore was a senior partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, a member of the State Bar Board of Governors, president of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, and County Bar delegate to the ABA Board of Governors. Two of his fellow partners at Gibson, Dunn agreed to prepare the brief reminiscence of Whitmore that appears below.

— SELMA MOIDEL SMITH

Oral History of
GEORGE YONEHIRO
(1922–2001)

EDITOR'S NOTE

The oral history of George Yonehiro is one of four oral histories conducted by the former California State Bar Committee on History of Law in California in 1987. These were the final oral histories conducted by the committee, and they are published for the first time in the present volume of *California Legal History* (vol. 6, 2011). Yonehiro was interviewed by committee member Raymond R. Roberts on January 21, 1987.

The oral history has been reedited for publication. The spelling of names has been corrected wherever possible, and explanatory notations in [square brackets] have been added by the editor. The sound recording and original transcription are available at The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley. The oral history is published by permission of the State Bar of California.

As an introduction to Judge Yonehiro's life and career, the obituary published by *The Auburn Journal* at the time of his death in 2001 is reproduced below.¹

— SELMA MOIDEL SMITH

¹ Gus Thomson, "Former Placer County Superior Court Judge passes away," *The Auburn Journal* (March 28, 2001), p. A5.