

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Judge Anne C. Dranginis

Date 2005 February 9

Primary Maker Anne C. Dranginis

Description Oral history interview with Judge Anne C. Dranginis who was interviewed by Judge Alexandra D. DiPentima on February 9, 2005 for the Connecticut Bar Foundation's History of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession Project. Topic Discussed: - Early Life Background : Dranginis grew up in Litchfield County, Connecticut, born in Waterbury, and later moved to Goshen. Her mother was a teacher at the Sarka School in Litchfield and her father a machinist at the Torrington Company. - Great Depression and WWII: She recounts stories from the Depression and World War II, noting her father served in the military in Bora Bora. - Early Education: Dranginis's schooling began in Goshen public schools. She attended Wamogo Regional High School, participating in cheerleading and basketball. - Education and Civic Involvement : Dranginis's parents highly valued education as a path to upward mobility and were deeply involved in civic activities and politics, instilling in her a strong sense of contribution and the drive to excel. - College Experience at Manhattanville: Dranginis attended Manhattanville College from 1965 to 1969, majoring in philosophy. - Political Involvement: During college, she worked in Robert Kennedy's Senate office in New York City in 1967 and 1968. Her father was a Democratic nominee for the state legislature in Goshen in 1960 and campaigned for John Kennedy. Her maternal grandfather was also involved in

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Waterbury politics during the 1933 election. - Transition to Law and Early Legal

Career: She applied to UConn Law School and gained practical experience

working at Arnold Markle's State's Attorney's Office and the Haddam Training

Facility, and handled criminal law cases. - Challenges in the Legal Profession :

Dranginis faced gender-based obstacles early in her legal career, noting

difficulties in securing positions in Hartford law firms in the 1970s due to

discriminatory hiring practices against women. Ultimately, she transitioned to

the public sector, recognizing the persistent challenges women encountered in

private practice. - Public Sector Work: Dranginis continued her work with Lew

Rome's office, and worked in Hartford with the Board of Pardons, and was

eventually appointed as a part-time Assistant State's Attorney in May 1978.

Dimensions Duration: 1 Hour, 57 Minutes, 38 Seconds