

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers

Date 2016 November 29

Primary Maker Chase T. Rogers

Description Oral history interview with Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers who was interviewed by Judge Alexandra D. DiPentima on November 29, 2016 for the Connecticut Bar Foundation's History of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession Project. Topics Discussed: - Background: Chase T. Rogers grew up in Fairfield, Connecticut. Her parents were both in the fashion business. - Education: Rogers attended Roger Ludlowe High School in Fairfield. She chose to attend Stanford University in California to explore beyond Connecticut, graduating in 1979 with a political science major and an English literature minor. After college, she worked as a paralegal for a year before attending Boston University School of Law. She passed the bar exams in Connecticut and qualified for the bar in New York, Federal Court, Second Circuit, and the US Supreme Court. - Early Legal Career: Rogers began her legal career at Cummings & Lockwood in 1983. She worked there until January 1998. - Personal Life: Rogers met her husband in London in 1984 through a high school friend, and they married in 1985. He is now a partner at Robinson & Cole, also practicing law. They have two children. She became a partner at Cummings & Lockwood in 1991. - Experiences as a Woman Attorney: Rogers never experienced problems with clients as a woman attorney. However, she did observe some judges being dismissive of women attorneys. She believes she benefited greatly from the

Basic Detail Report

women's movement. As a partner, she headed hiring and pro bono efforts,

mentoring younger associates, particularly women. - Judiciary and Trial Bench:

She was appointed to the trial bench in January 1998 by Governor John

Rowland. Her first assignment was the Geographical Area Court in Danbury. She

also served on the Civil Docket in Waterbury and Stamford and the Regional

Child Protection Docket. - Appellate Court: She applied for the Appellate Court

and was approved. She was placed on the Appellate Court in 2006. -

Appointment as Chief Justice of Connecticut Supreme Court: In April 2007,

Governor M. Jodi Rell offered her the position of Chief Justice, making her the

second woman Chief Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court. - Challenges

and Accomplishments as Chief Justice: As Chief Justice she addressed the issue

of sealed files and developed the branch's first five-year strategic plan.

Dimensions Duration: 9 Minutes, 5 Seconds