



Lawrence F. Stengel

Born: 1952, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Nominated by George W. Bush on November 6, 2003, to a seat vacated by Ronald Buckwalter. Confirmed by the Senate on June 16, 2004, and received commission on June 21, 2004. Served as Chief Judge, 2017 to 2018.

Service terminated on August 31, 2018, due to retirement.

Education:

St. Joseph's College (now St. Joseph's University), B.A., 1974

University of Pittsburgh Law School, J.D., 1980

Professional Career:

Teacher, Lancaster, Pennsylvania Catholic High School: 1974-1977

Private Practice: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: 1980-1984

Private Practice, Lancaster, Pennsylvania: 1985-1990; 2018-

Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania: 1990-2004

Adjunct Professor, Franklin & Marshall College: 1997-2004

Adjunct Professor, Millersville University: 2000-2004

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Judicial Biography

Judge Stengel received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Joseph's University in 1974 and his J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1980 where he served on the Law Review. Early in his career, from 1980 to 1984, he was in private practice in Pittsburgh

with Dickie, McCamey and Chilcote, P.C. He then began his own practice in Lancaster with his father, Lawrence E. Stengel, from 1985 until 1990.

He was a teacher at Lancaster Catholic High School from 1974 until 1977 and has served as an adjunct professor at Millersville University, Franklin and Marshall College and the Beasley School of Law at Temple University.

His judicial career began in 1990 when he was appointed by Governor Robert P. Casey to fill a vacancy on the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas. In 1991, Judge Stengel was elected to a full-term on the court and was retained in 2001. During his 14 years of service, he presided over hundreds of trials, jury, and nonjury, wrote hundreds of opinions; and conducted settlement conferences in numerous cases. He handled 20 homicide cases, two of which were capital cases that went to trial. His state court work included many complex negligence, product liability, professional malpractice, land use and commercial cases involving trials, hearings, motions and settlements.

In 2000, he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges and received the President's award in 2002 for his work in planning an educational program for the state judiciary on racial disparity in sentencing.

Former President George W. Bush nominated Judge Stengel to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in 2003. After Senate confirmation, he was sworn in on June 29, 2004, and served as a federal judge in Philadelphia and Reading. On August 1, 2017, he was named Chief Judge of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the third-largest federal court in the nation. At the federal level, Judge Stengel authored more than 1,400 opinions and has presided over dozens of civil and criminal trials, including two multidistrict litigation cases.

In 2009, he was appointed to the Judicial Conference Committee on Judicial Resources, the committee responsible for human resources policy for the entire federal judiciary. He was subsequently named Chairman of the Committee on Judicial Resources by Chief Justice Roberts in 2015.

Judge Stengel announced his retirement from the bench in 2018.

After retiring from the bench, Judge Stengel returned to the private practice of law. His practice has focused on internal investigations, arbitrations and mediations, monitorships and receiverships.