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# The Resource Page

## THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR A CIVIL RIGHT TO COUNSEL

The NCCRC, organized and funded in part by the Public Justice Center, is an association of individuals and organizations committed to ensuring meaningful access to the courts for all. Founded in 2003, its mission is to encourage, support, and coordinate advocacy to expand recognition and implementation of a right to counsel for low-income people in civil cases that involve basic human needs such as shelter, safety, sustenance, health, and child custody. At present, the NCCRC has over 300 participants and 200 partners in 40 states, all of whom are committed to exploring how the right to counsel in civil cases can best be advanced in their particular jurisdiction. It works to advance legislation in various jurisdictions, assist litigation, advise public officials, and had developed an extensive body of research and writing available at [http://civilrighttocounsel.org/highlighted\\_work/publications#reflection](http://civilrighttocounsel.org/highlighted_work/publications#reflection)

Want to know all about the statutes and cases in your state related to access to justice and civil right to counsel? Check <http://civilrighttocounsel.org/map> NCCRC is a great resource for important information.

## SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS NETWORK

The SRLN is a leading voice in the national movement for access to civil justice. It supports justice system professionals focused on the question of how best to reform all aspects of the legal system (courts, legal aid, the bar, and non-legal partners) so that self-represented litigants experience the courts (and indeed the legal system) as a consumer-oriented environment guided by the principles of equal protection and due process. SRLN is a resource center that provides toolkits, evaluation, implementation guidance and thought leadership. It connects and supports leaders throughout the country, and offers data and analysis for civil justice issues. Started in 2005, it is focused on building and maintaining a network of judges and others to work on the needs of the self-represented in civil courts. SRLN identifies, supports and evaluates innova-

tive services and strategies to create a user-friendly legal system. It has marshalled scores of papers and publications including best practices for courts. <https://www.srln.org/node/29/%E2%80%A2-best-practices-court-based-programs-self-represented-concepts-attributes-issues>

## BOOKS BY JUSTICE JOHN PAUL STEVENS—TREATMENT FOR TOUGH TIMES

When he resigned in 2011, Justice Stevens was the third longest serving Justice in American history—a period of 35 years. Currently, most commentators forecast the 2020 Term as one of high historical—and political—significance. Consequently, a growing number of judges look upon the nation’s legal landscape as mercurial, and lacking the balanced perspective of the formative past. Here are are two books by Justice Stevens, including one published shortly before his 2019 passing, that are guaranteed to reassure any jurist who is weary of sound-bite justice and worried about where we are headed.

### Five Chiefs: A Supreme Court Memoir

This volume, published right after Stevens’ retirement in 2011, still resonates with relevancy today. Justice Stevens describes the inner workings of the Supreme Court and his personal experiences with the five Chief Justices with whom he served— Fred Vinson, Earl Warren, Warren Burger, William Rehnquist, and John Roberts. He reminisces of being a law clerk during Vinson’s tenure; a practicing lawyer for Warren; a circuit judge and junior justice for Burger; a contemporary colleague of Rehnquist; and a colleague of current Chief Justice John Roberts. Along the way, he discusses his own views of some the most significant cases that have been decided by the Court from Vinson, who became Chief Justice in 1946 when Truman was President, to Roberts, who became Chief Justice in 2005. The volume full of interesting anecdotes and stories about the Court, and is a unique and historically significant look at the highest court in the United States.

## The Making of a Justice: Reflections on My First 94 Years

When Justice John Paul Stevens retired from the Supreme Court of the United States in 2010, he had authored more than 1,000 opinions. Such a prolific legacy was practically unequaled in the history of the Court. In *The Making of a Justice*, he remembers his extraordinary life, and recounts highlights, both professional and personal, about his long service. Appointed by President Gerald Ford and eventually retiring during President Obama’s first term, Justice Stevens has been witness to, and an integral part of, landmark changes in American society during some of the most important Supreme Court decisions over four decades. With stories of growing up in Chicago, his work as a naval traffic analyst at Pearl Harbor during World War II, and his early days in private practice, *The Making of a Justice* is a warm and fascinating account of Justice Stevens’s unique and transformative American life

## COVID-19 AND STATE COURTS

The National Center for State Courts is collecting information on a variety of ways that COVID-19 has impacted the courts. Just go to <https://www.ncsc.org/> and you will see among other things, links to State Court COVID-19 websites and information on how states are dealing with jury trials and in-person proceedings.

## LET’S KEEP TALKING

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