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John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture Series

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11-2-1988

# Program for the 17th Annual John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture Series: The Invisible Prince

Francis T. Murphy

*New York State Appellate Division*

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*The Fordham Law Alumni Association  
announces the  
Seventeenth Annual  
John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture  
to be delivered by*

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*THE HONORABLE FRANCIS T. MURPHY  
Presiding Justice of the Supreme Court  
of the State of New York  
Appellate Division, First Department*

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*on  
Wednesday, November 2, 1988  
in the  
James B. M. McNally Amphitheatre  
Fordham University School of Law  
140 West 62nd Street  
New York City  
8:00 P.M.*

JOHN F. SONNETT  
1912–1969

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John F. Sonnett, a 1933 graduate of Fordham College and a 1936 graduate of the School of Law, was a senior partner in the firm of Cahill Gordon & Reindel. This lecture series has been endowed by his partners and friends as a permanent memorial to him.

In 1933, Mr. Sonnett joined that firm, then known as Cotton & Franklin, as managing clerk, a position he held for the next three years while attending Fordham Law School. Upon graduation he became an associate at the firm. In 1941 he joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York where he became Chief Assistant United States Attorney.

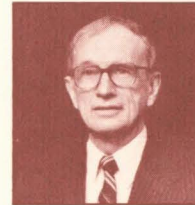
During the Second World War, Mr. Sonnett was Special Counsel to the Under Secretary of the Navy. Later, as Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy holding the rank of Lieutenant Commander, he conducted the final Navy investigations of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

At the conclusion of the war, Mr. Sonnett was named Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Antitrust Division of the United States Department of Justice.

He returned to the Cahill Gordon firm in 1948 and established an international reputation as a pre-eminent trial and appellate lawyer. A devoted son of Fordham, his death in July 1969 was a great loss to the profession and his alma mater. His excellence as an advocate is memorialized through this lecture series.

THE HONORABLE FRANCES T. MURPHY

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Francis T. Murphy, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, First Judicial Department, received his undergraduate degree from Fordham College and his law degree from New York Law School.

Justice Murphy began his career on the bench in 1957 when Mayor Robert F. Wagner appointed him to the Municipal Court of the City of New York. The following year, he was elected to that court for a full term. In 1962, upon the merger of the Municipal and City Courts, Justice Murphy became a Judge of the Civil Court of the City of New York. That same year, he was elected as a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, and, in 1971, Governor Nelson Rockefeller designated him as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, First Judicial Department. In 1976, he was elected to serve an additional term as a Justice of the Supreme Court and Governor Hugh Carey then redesignated him as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division. In 1977, Governor Carey designated Justice Murphy as Presiding Justice.

As Presiding Justice, Justice Murphy has been a leading advocate of the continuing education and training of lawyers. He is the originator and principal proponent of a statewide lawyer disciplinary plan for New York, a plan supported by, among others, the American Bar Association and the City Bar. He is a pioneer in the development of clinical programs for child protective services and is the originator of a system requiring random auditing of attorneys' trust accounts. He has written extensively in these areas and his articles have appeared in law reviews, bar association journals, and other publications.

Justice Murphy is currently serving as President of the Federation of New York State Judges. He is a member of the Council of Chief Judges of Courts of Appeal, the Advisory Board to the Governor's Task Force on Domestic Violence, the Council on Requirements of the Courts, and the Special Committee of Honors of the New York City Bar Association. He is a member of the Board of Visitors of Fordham University School of Law and a trustee of New York Law School. In 1983, he was invested as a Knight of Malta.

Throughout his career, he has received numerous awards and citations for judicial excellence and has received honorary degrees from New York Law School and Long Island University.

*PREVIOUS*

*JOHN F. SONNETT MEMORIAL*

*LECTURERS:*

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*HON. CEARBHALL O'DALAIGH*

*HON. IRVING R. KAUFMAN*

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