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John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture Series

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10-23-1984

### Invitation to the Fourteenth Annual John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture Series: The Office of Chief Judge of a Federal Court of Appeals

Wilfred Feinberg

*U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit*

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#### Recommended Citation

Feinberg, Wilfred, "Invitation to the Fourteenth Annual John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture Series: The Office of Chief Judge of a Federal Court of Appeals" (1984). *Miscellaneous*. 20.  
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Fordham Law Alumni Association  
announces the  
Fourteenth Annual  
John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture  
to be delivered by  
The Honorable Wilfred Feinberg  
Chief Judge  
United States Court of Appeals for the  
Second Circuit  
on  
Tuesday, October 23, 1984  
Pope Auditorium  
113 West 60th Street  
Fordham University School of Law  
8:00 p.m.

Previous John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecturers:

Hon. Tom Clark  
Hon. Cearball O'Dalaigh  
Hon. Irving R. Kaufman  
Hon. Warren E. Burger  
Rt. Hon. Lord John Widgery  
Hon. Robert J. Sheran  
Hon. Leon Jaworski  
Hon. Griffin B. Bell  
Hon. William Hughes Mulligan  
Hon. Benjamin R. Civiletti  
Hon. Lawrence H. Cooke  
Rt. Hon. Sir Robert E. Megarry  
Hon. William T. Coleman

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John F. Sonnett  
1912 - 1969

John F. Sonnett, a 1933 graduate of Fordham College and a 1936 graduate of the School of Law, was a senior partner of 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 to support himself during 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 U.S. 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 one of the pre-eminent trial and appellate lawyers. 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.