

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF  
NEW HAMPSHIRE ON THE PASSING OF JUDGE JOSEPH A. DICLERICO, JR.**

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CONCORD (April 3, 2022)-The United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire mourns the passing of our beloved colleague, Judge Joseph A. DiClerico, Jr., who died yesterday at the age of 81. We also express our deepest sympathy to his family, including his wife Laurie, daughter Devon, her husband Matt, and his twin granddaughters, Sofia and Katelyn.

Judge DiClerico was born in 1941 and was raised in Nahant, Massachusetts. He attended Williams College, where he received a B.A. in 1963, and Yale Law School where he received a LL.B. in 1966. After law school, he served for one year as a law clerk in the District of New Hampshire for District Judge Aloysius Connor. He then served one year as a law clerk for the five Justices of the New Hampshire Supreme Court, where he was the first law clerk in the history of that court. From 1968 to 1970, he was in private practice at Cleveland, Waters and Bass in Concord, New Hampshire. In the fall of 1970, he was hired as an Assistant Attorney General for New Hampshire.

Judge DiClerico was appointed as an Associate Justice on the New Hampshire Superior Court in 1977. Judge DiClerico was then appointed to serve as Chief Justice of the Superior Court from 1991 to 1992. In 1992, he was nominated by President George H.W. Bush to a newly created seat in the District of New Hampshire. He served as the court's Chief Judge from 1992 to 1997, and assumed senior status on March 15, 2007. He celebrated his 31st year on the District of New Hampshire bench on August 17, 2021. During his time on the federal bench, Judge DiClerico served on the Judicial Conference of the United States (1997-2000) and on two Judicial Conference Committees--Codes of Conduct (1994-2002) and Judicial Conduct and Disability (2006-2012). He also received two prestigious awards from the New Hampshire Bar Association: the Justice William A. Grimes Award for Judicial Professionalism (2007); and the 2016 Award for Distinguished Service to the Public.

On news of Judge DiClerico's passing, Chief Judge McCafferty stated: "All of the judges and our court family are profoundly saddened by the loss of our friend and colleague Joe DiClerico. During his remarkable career, Judge DiClerico served the bar and citizens of New Hampshire as a judge for over 45 years. He was the consummate trial judge: patient, wise, fair, kind, and humble. He was also a judge's judge, possessing attributes that many of his state and federal judicial colleagues sought to emulate over the past four decades. His immense impact on New Hampshire judges and the bar will be felt for years to come. And while we will all miss his legal skills and advice, we will miss even more his wit, friendship, thoughtfulness, and caring nature. On behalf of the court, I extend our deepest sympathies to Laurie and the entire DiClerico family."

Former Chief Judge of the First Circuit Court of Appeals Jeffrey Howard said: "Few judges in history have had as prominent a federal and state role in the administration of justice for New Hampshire citizens as Judge DiClerico. The First Circuit Court of Appeals benefitted from his having frequently volunteered to hear cases on appellate panels with us; as well he was a mentor to many judges throughout the Circuit, and a dear friend to many more. I depended on his common sense and sage advice, as did several circuit chief judges before me. His sound reasoning and prescient legal rulings and his unfailing decency will echo in the halls of the Rudman Federal Courthouse for many years to come."