Descriptive Summary

Title: Harry Blackmun collection, 1940-1999
Call Number: Series No. 039
Extent: 0.80 linear ft. (2 boxes)
Abstract: Contains memorials to Blackmun and other Supreme Court justices, reprints, documentation of his nomination to the Supreme Court, tributes and dedications, and a small collection of miscellaneous items.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
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Related Materials in This Repository

Source
Donation from the Emory School of Law.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Harry Blackmun Collection, Emory Law Archives, Hugh F. MacMillan Law Library, Emory University.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note
Harry Andrew Blackmun was born in Nashville, Illinois on November 12, 1908. At an early age, he moved with his family to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he attended public schools. Blackmun graduate summa cum laude from Harvard College in 1929 and then attended Harvard Law School, graduating in 1932. Following graduation from law school, he was a law clerk to Judge John B. Sanborn of the U. S. Courts of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Upon completion of the clerkship he joined the Minneapolis law firm of Dorsey, Colman, Barker, Scott & Barber, where he became a junior partner in 1939 and a general partner in 1943.

Blackmun became general counsel to the Mayo Clinic and Mayo Association in 1950 and remained there until appointed to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals in 1959. In 1970, after two unsuccessful attempts by President Richard Nixon to nominate a replacement for Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas, Blackmun was nominated and easily won confirmation by the United States Senate. He continued to serve as an Associate Justice until his retirement on April 6, 1994. He died in 1999.

Scope and Content Note
The Harry A. Blackmun Collection consists of primarily of items related to Justice Blackmun's career with the United States Supreme Court. Included are memorials to Blackmun and other Supreme Court justices; reprints of remarks made to various organizations; documentation of his nomination to the Supreme Court; tributes and dedications offered by several groups; and a small collection of miscellaneous items.
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