



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
1 COURTHOUSE WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02210

ROBERT M. FARRELL
CLERK OF COURT

PRESS RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

On September 16, 2023, Senior District Judge Edward F. Harrington will retire from service to the court. Judge Harrington was appointed to the court on February 22, 1988 by President Ronald Reagan and assumed senior status on March 1, 2001. Judge Harrington has been a member of the Massachusetts bar for 63 years and served as a U.S. District Judge for over 35 years.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Harrington had a storied legal career working for the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. and in Boston in various positions for over 15 years. Those positions include United States Attorney and Chief of the Organized Crime Strike Force. His work with the Justice Department included numerous successful prosecutions of organized crime figures. He served as U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts (1977-1981). He is one of only seven individuals to serve both as the U.S. Attorney and as a U.S. District Judge for the District of Massachusetts since it was established in 1789.

Chief Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV states:

“Judge Harrington has been a valued member of our court since 1988. In addition to his long service as an active and senior judge, in recent years he has performed outstanding work as a mediator, helping to promote settlements and substantially reduce our civil caseload. We will miss his cheerful and enthusiastic presence and his many contributions to the work of the court.”

Judge Harrington graduated with honors from the College of the Holy Cross in 1955 and in 1960 received his J.D. from Boston College Law School. In 2019, Judge Harrington was awarded the Edward Bennett Williams '41 Lifetime Achievement Award by the Holy Cross Lawyers Association for distinguished service to the legal profession and devotion to the College.



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS
ONE COURTHOUSE WAY
SUITE 6120
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02210

Edward F. Harrington

SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE

September 5, 2023

Honorable F. Dennis Saylor IV
Chief Judge
United States District Court
District of Massachusetts
One Courthouse Way
Boston, MA 02210

Dear Chief Judge Saylor,

This is to inform you that I shall retire effective September 16, 2023. I shall have reached the age of 90 on that date and have been a member of the Bar for 63 years.

I have served as a United States District Judge for over 35 years and as an attorney for the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. and in Boston in various positions for over 15 years. Those positions include United States Attorney and Chief of the Organized Crime Strike Force.

I also was engaged in private practice for 12 years and ran for Attorney General of Massachusetts in 1974 and 1986 and was defeated in both elections.

I am one of only seven individuals who has served both as United States District Judge and United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts since the District was established in 1789.

I was always supported by collegial fellow judges, a highly professional staff and outstanding law clerks which made my tenure very enjoyable. The powers of a judge inhere in the office and not in a person, and the exercise of such powers is for a brief time only. That brief time has passed.

As a Judge, I had no agenda other than to try to resolve disputes justly and expeditiously under established principles of law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward F. Harrington".

Edward F. Harrington
U.S. Senior District Judge

EFH/tjm

cc: Robert Farrell, Clerk of Court