Joseph R. Grodin Papers MSS.1001

Finding aid prepared by Martha Noble and Noah Pollaczek, California Judicial Center Library, Special Collections and Archives
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Preferred Citation
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Acquisition Information
Donated by Joseph R. Grodin to the California Judicial Center Library, Special Collections and Archives, May 2010.

Biographical Note
Joseph R. Grodin was born in Oakland, California on August 30, 1930. A graduate of the University of California, Berkeley (BA, 1951), Grodin continued his education at Yale University (JD, 1954) and the London School of Economics (PhD, 1960), with an academic focus on labor law and labor relations. Grodin joined the law firm of Tobriner and Lazarus in 1955. While in private practice, Grodin served as an adjunct professor at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. From 1970 to 1971 he served as a visiting professor at the University of Oregon Law School and, in 1972, began teaching full-time at Hastings College of the Law. In 1977, he was appointed visiting professor at Stanford Law School.

In May 1979, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. appointed Grodin to the California Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division One, where he began his service on July 20, 1979. In March 1982, he was appointed Presiding Justice of the California Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division Two. He was appointed to the California Supreme Court by Governor Brown in December 1982. In January 1987, following a controversial retention election in November 1986, Justice Grodin left the Supreme Court and rejoined the faculty at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Joseph R. Grodin papers are comprised of 5.2 cubic feet of records documenting Justice Grodin’s service on the California Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, and the California Supreme Court. The bulk of the collection consists of articles, clippings, and reports compiled by Justice Grodin before and after the 1986 California Supreme Court retention election, as well as correspondence, speeches and letters of congratulation sent to Grodin upon appointment to the Supreme Court. Materials date from 1979 to 1989.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
California. Supreme Court.
Grodin, Joseph R.
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Justice, Administration of--California
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