Marguerite P. Justice Papers SPC.2019.050

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2020-02-21
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Abstract: The Marguerite P. Justice Papers collection includes, correspondence, photographs, reports, pamphlets, speeches, and other materials regarding the Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Police Commission, and varying clubs and organization in the city of Los Angeles.

Language of Material: English.

Conditions Governing Use
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Director of Archives and Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections as the owner of the physical materials and not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.

Preferred Citation
[title of item] Marguerite P. Justice Papers, Courtesy of the Gerth Archives and Special Collections. University Library. California State University, Dominguez Hills

Scope and Contents
The Marguerite P. Justice Papers (1930s-1990s) includes information regarding the Los Angeles Police department, Los Angeles Police Commission; correspondence and paperwork associated with the Westside Property Owners' Protective and Improvement Association; over 300 photographs of family, Justice's city council race; images taken on the set of Adam-12, travel photographs, photos of Mayor Sam Yorty, Linda Darnell, and others; letters addressed to Justice; copies of outgoing correspondence from Justice; LAPD employee report, 1971; texts of speeches delivered at various community events; pamphlets from various California police officer's wives organizations; materials gathered from civic organizations Justice was involved in; material belonging to Justice's husband such as correspondence; and educational records.

Arrangement
Arranged in 5 series:
2. Series II. Clubs and Organizations, 1938-1990s, undated
5. Series V. Photographs, undated

Separated Materials
This collection includes 3 pamphlets entitled, "Race, Ethnicity and Religion in a Changing America: Observations for the 1980s" by James B McKeer; "A New Look at Prejudice: Program Implications for Educational Organizations" by Helen Foos; "Report to the People: A Publication of the California State Legislature, 1969." It also includes the "Charter of the City of Los Angeles," compiled by Roger Arneburgh and Rex E. Layton.

Biographical / Historical
Marguerite P. Justice (1921-2009), fondly referred to as "Mama J," was the first African American woman to serve as a Los Angeles Police Commissioner. She was born Marguerite P. Lecense in New Orleans, Louisiana, and was the youngest of three children to Albert and Louis Lecesne. In 1945, Justice moved to Los Angeles where she worked as a seamstress, and then became personal assistant to actress Linda Darnell. Justice gave up her position with Darnell to marry William H. Justice whom she met through church.

An active member of her community, Justice participated in multiple organizations such as the Westside Property Owners and Improvement Association, the Los Angeles Southwest Committee for Employment of Probations, the Exposition Community Coordinating Council, as well as the Community Redevelopment Agency board where she worked alongside Los Angeles City Councilman, Billy Mills. She was also an active member of the United Methodist church. Justice served in the Los Angeles Police Commission from 1971-1973 earning praise for her sensitivity to police oversight and minority
communities. Justice ran for City Council in 1975, but was unable to obtain the position. She continued to participate in community activism and support the Los Angeles Police Department. Justice received the Police Historical Society’s Jack Webber Award in 2004.

**Processing Information**
Danielle A Trujillo, 2020-02-21

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
African Americans -- History.
African Americans--California--Los Angeles.
Los Angeles (Calif.). Police Department.
Los Angeles (Calif.)
Justice, William H.
Los Angeles Police Department

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>box 1</th>
<th><strong>Series I: Work 1944-1988, undated</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Physical Description: 1-9 folders</td>
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<td>Physical Description: .42 linear feet</td>
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<td><strong>Scope and Contents</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>This series includes information regarding the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD); information pertaining to Justice as a Los Angeles Police Commissioner; Los Angeles Metropolitan Area Council; Los Angeles Boys Club, William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation; Peace Officer’s Wives Club; Police Wives Auxiliary; Police Wives Association; Deputy Sheriffs’ Wives Association; The Glen Campbell Los Angeles Open Golf Tournament; and the Los Angeles Police Celebrity Golf Memorial.</td>
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<tr>
<th>box 1, folder 1</th>
<th><strong>Newspapers, correspondence, and questionnaire with information regarding the structure and operation of the Los Angeles Police Department 1944-1988, undated</strong></th>
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<tr>
<th>box 1, folder 2-3</th>
<th><strong>News articles and drafts, programs, and correspondence with information regarding Marguerite P. Justice while acting Police Commissioner 1963-1973, undated</strong></th>
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| box 1, folder 4 | **Incoming correspondence to Marguerite P. Justice from E.M. Davis, Chief of Police 1967-1978, undated** |

| box 1, folder 5 | **Agendas, correspondence, Board of Directors meeting minutes with information on Los Angeles Metropolitan Area Council, Los Angeles Boy Club, and William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation 1972-1987, undated** |

| box 1, folder 6 | **Pamphlets, annual reports, newsletters and patches with information regarding the Los Angeles Police Department 1972-1976, undated** |

| box 1, folder 7 | **Brochures, bulletins and other materials regarding Peace Officer’s Wives Club, Police Wives Auxiliary, Police Wives Association, Deputy Sheriffs’ Wives Association, and other organizations for Police Wives 1972-1979, undated** |

| box 1, folder 8 | **Pamphlets and programs with information on The Glen Campbell Los Angeles Open Golf Tournament and Los Angeles Police-Celebrity Gold Memorial 1973-1974, undated** |

| box 1, folder 9 | **Photographs on cardboard with images of police officers and other individuals undated** |
Series II: Clubs and Organizations 1938-1990, undated

Physical Description: 1-9 folders
Physical Description: .42 linear feet

Scope and Contents
This series includes information on the Westside Property Owners and Improvement Association; Lincoln Clubs of the Republican Party of Los Angeles; Westside Republican Women's Council; Los Angeles Southwest Committee for Employment of Probations; Community Redevelopment Agency; Human Relations Unit; Exposition Community Coordinating Council; United Methodist church; United Methodist Night at Dodger Stadium; and Justice's run for City Council.

box 2, folder 1
Memorandum, drafts, correspondence, and bylaws regarding Westside Property Owners and Improvement Association 1938-1974, undated

box 2, folder 2
Flyers, newsletters, meeting minutes and other materials regarding Lincoln Clubs of the Republican Party of Los Angeles, and West Side Republican Women's Club 1952-1990, undated

box 2, folder 3
Articles, meeting minutes, and brochures with information on the Los Angeles Southwest Committee for Employment of Probations 1961-1962, undated

box 2, folder 4
Correspondence from Harold R. Muntz and Augustus F. Hawkins, and others regarding the Los Angeles Southwest Committee for Employment of Probations 1961-1963, undated

box 2, folder 5
Outlines and correspondence with information regarding Community Redevelopment Agency, Human Relations Unit and other community programs 1963-1990, undated

box 2, folder 6
Correspondence, program agenda, meeting minutes, and newspaper clippings of the Exposition Community Coordinating Council 1964-1968, undated

box 2, folder 7
Committee reports and minutes, correspondence, sermons, bulletins and other materials with information on United Methodist 1966-1989, undated

box 2, folder 8
Press release, flyers, and other materials regarding Marguerite P. Justice running for City Council 1974-1976, undated

box 2, folder 9
Receipts, flyers, notes and other materials regarding United Methodist Night at Dodger Stadium August 3, 1989 - September 27, 1989

Series III: City of Los Angeles 1961-1991, undated

Physical Description: 6 folders
Physical Description: .42 linear feet

Scope and Contents
This series includes information regarding the Eighth District Advisory Council, Councilmen Billy G. Mills and Robert Farrell; Mayor Sam Yorty, Justice's husband, William H. Justice's employment and education.

box 3, folder 1
City Hall reports, speeches, pamphlets, and correspondence regarding Councilmen Billy G. Mills, Robert Farrell and the Eighth District Advisory Council 1965-1982, undated

box 3, folder 2
Speeches, biographical profiles, and obituaries 1963-1991, undated

box 3, folder 3
Correspondence, news article drafts with information on Mayor of Los Angeles, Sam Yorty, and an eight year report on progress in Los Angeles entitled, "The Yorty Years" 1969-1971, undated

box 3, folder 4
Program for "General Daniel 'Chappie' James Jr." Memorial Dinner April 29, 1978

box 3, folder 5-6
Resumes, correspondence, and memorandums with information regarding employment of William Harris Justice Jr., including information related to Northrop Corporation and Compton Chamber of Commerce 1950-1990, undated

Series IV: Correspondence 1960-1991, undated

Physical Description: 1-9 folders
Physical Description: .42 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents
This series contains incoming and outgoing correspondence to and from Justice; executive planners from the years 1978 and 1980; and financial records.
box 4, folder 1-2  
Incoming correspondence, invitations, thank you notes, payments and other materials 1960-1991, undated

box 4, folder 3  
Outgoing correspondence 1969-1977

box 4, folder 4  
Executive Planner 1978

box 4, folder 5  
Correspondence, message memos, and other materials located in Executive Planner 1978 1977-1978

box 4, folder 6  
Executive Planner 1980

box 4, folder 7  
Correspondence and receipts found in 1980 Executive Planner 1979-1981, undated

box 4, folder 8  
Financial records January 1959 - December 1959

box 4, folder 9  
Notes and other materials 1964-1984

Series V: Photographs undated

Physical Description: 5-6 box

Physical Description: 2 linear feet

Scope and Contents

This series contains photographs of Justice's family, travels, work, and friends including Councilmen Billy Mills, Sam Yorty, and Linda Darnell.