

**Chief Justice John P. Flaherty, Jr.**  
1931-2019

**Term**

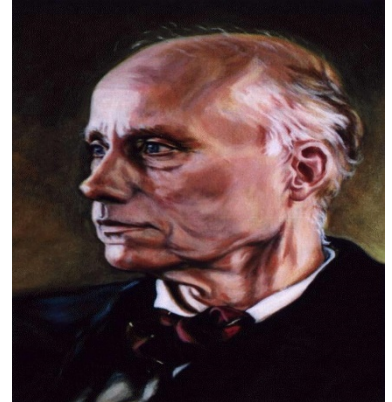
June 15, 1979-December 31, 2001; Chief Justice, 1996-2001; first Chief Justice Emeritus, 2002-2019

**Education**

- Duquesne University, B.A., 1953
- University of Pittsburgh School of Law, J.D., 1958

**Professional Experience**

- 1st Lieutenant, U. S. Army, 1953-1955
- Admitted to Allegheny County Bar, 1958
- Private practice, 1958-1973
- Professor, Carnegie-Mellon University, 1958-1973
- Chief Counsel, Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board, 1971
- Elected Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, November 1973
- Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, January 1974-June 1979, served as Administrative Judge of the Civil Division of the Court of Common Pleas, February 1978 to June 15, 1979
- Governor Richard Thornburgh nominated Flaherty, Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, May 25, 1979, confirmed by the Senate on June 11, 1979; elected November 1979, retained November 1989 and November 1999
- Justice in charge of the Continuing Legal Education Program of the Supreme Court, 2002



**Honors and Awards**

- Honorary LL.D. degree: Widener University, 1993
- Honorary Kentucky Colonel
- Freedom for All Ireland Award
- Ancient Order of Hibernians, 1977
- Distinguished Alumni Award, Pennsylvania Academy of Science, 1978
- Humanitarian Award, Irish National Caucus, 1978
- "Man of the Year" Award, Law and Government, Greater Pittsburgh Jaycees, 1978
- Medallion of Distinction, University of Pittsburgh, 1988
- Judicial Award, Pennsylvania Bar Association, 1993
- Century Club of Distinguished Alumni, Duquesne University, 1995
- Brehon Award, Brehon Law Society of Philadelphia, 1995
- Justice Award, Sheriff's Association of Pennsylvania, 1995
- Chairman, Advisory Board, Pennsylvania Academy of Science
- Listed in Who's Who in the East; Who's Who in American Law; Who's Who in America; Who's Who in the World; Personalities of America

**Memberships and Associations**

- American Law Institute, 1992
- Fellow, Military History Society of Ireland
- Pennsylvania Society
- Irish Society of Pittsburgh
- Counselor Emeritus, Ancient Order of Hibernians
- Knights of Equity
- Friendly Sons of St. Patrick
- Gaelic Art Society
- Irish-American Cultural Institute
- American Legion

- Honorary Member, Philippines National Bar Association
- U.S.I.A. sponsored speaker in Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Australia, Korea and Hong Kong, 1985-1986

### **Publications**

- Book Review. 21 Duquesne L. Rev. 835 (1983) (Reviewing Richard Neely, How Courts Govern America (1983))
- With Maureen E. Lally-Green. The European Union: Where is It Now? 34 Duquesne L. Rev. 923 (1995-1996)
- With Maureen E. Lally-Green. Fundamental Rights in the European Union. 36 Duquesne L. Rev. 249 (1997-1998)

### **Sources**

108 Pa. Manual 443 (1987 ed.); 115 Pa. Manual 5-21 (2001); Joel Fishman, Judges of Allegheny County, Fifth Judicial District, Pennsylvania (1788-2008) 50 (2009); 1979 Volume 1 no. 32 Senate Journal 528 (June 11, 1979); Janice Crompton, Obituary: John P. Flaherty Jr. / State Supreme Court chief justice calmed the court during a time of tumult in 1996, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (February 25, 2019), at <https://www.post-gazette.com/news/obituaries/2019/02/25/JOHN-P-FLAHERTY-JR-State-Supreme-Court-chief-justice-obituary/stories/201902250134>; Chief Justice Flaherty Accepts Post to Lead Continuing Education Program for Jurists, Administrative Office of the PA Courts, News Release (December 31, 2001), <http://www.pacourts.us/assets/files/newsrelease-1/file-1118.pdf>; Marylynne Pitz, Flaherty Restored Civility to Fractious High Court; Retired Chief Justice to Maintain Focus on Legal Education, 25 no. 2 Pa. L. Weekly 3, 25 PLW 27 (January 14, 2002).