

## **Chief Justice William Allen**

1704-1780

### **Term**

1750-1774 (years taken from Lawmaking and Legislators in Pennsylvania)

### **Education**

- Middle Temple, 1720
- Cambridge University

### **Professional Experience**

- Member, General Assembly, 1730, 1731, 1732, 1733, 1734, 1735, 1736, 1737, 1738, 1756, 1757, 1758, 1759, 1760, 1761, 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767, 1768, 1769, 1770, 1771, 1772, 1773, 1774, 1775
- Justice, Court of Oyer and Terminer, Bucks County, 1730
- Justice, Court of Oyer and Terminer, Chester County, 1730
- Justice, Court of Oyer and Terminer, Philadelphia County, 1730
- Justice of the Peace, Philadelphia County, 1730-1750
- Justice, Trial of Negroes, 1737
- Chief Justice, Supreme Court, commissioned September 20, 1750, April 8, 1758, April 8, 1760, March 20, 1761, March 21, 1764, September 14, 1767
- Lieutenant, Philadelphia Associators, 1756
- Commissioner, Commission to Settle Maryland-Pennsylvania Boundary, 1750-1769
- Commissioner, Commission to Settle New York-New Jersey Boundary, 1764, 1767-1769
- Justice, Court of Oyer and Terminer, Lancaster County, 1762
- Councilman, Common Council of Philadelphia, 1727-1730
- Alderman, City of Philadelphia, 1730-1735, 1736-1741, 1751-1752
- Justice, Court of Oyer and Terminer, City of Philadelphia, 1730
- Justice of the Peace, City of Philadelphia, 1730-1750
- Mayor, City of Philadelphia, 1735-1736
- Commission of the Peace, City and County of Philadelphia, November 1738-June 1749
- Recorder, City of Philadelphia, 1741-1750
- Regulator of Streets, City of Philadelphia, 1742
- Lieutenant, Associators, 1756

### **Memberships and Associations**

- Grandmaster, St. John's Masonic Lodge, 1733
- Mt. Regale Fishing Club
- Philadelphia Dancing Assembly
- Society of the Sons of St. Tammany
- First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia
- One of the founders of the Library Company, 1738
- Trustee, Loganian Library, 1754
- Member, American Philosophical Society
- One of the 24 Founders of Academy of Philadelphia, 1750
- Trustee, College, Academy and Charitable School of Philadelphia, 1754
- Trustee, Society of Noblemen and Gentlemen in London, 1754
- One of the Founders, Pennsylvania Hospital, 1751
- Founder and Trustee, Presbyterian Academy and Seminary, Newark, DE, 1767

### **Sources**

Craig W. Horle, William Allen, Lawmaking and Legislators in Pennsylvania: A Biographical Dictionary Volume Three 1757-1775 231 (2005); G. S. Rowe, Embattled Bench 97, 99, 100, 102-07, 110-11, 116-17, 121, 126, 160, 168, 233, 278; John Hill Martin, Martin's Bench and Bar of Philadelphia 12-19, 244 (1883);

Norman S. Cohen, *William Allen: Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, 1704-1780* (Ph.D. Diss., U. of California, Berkeley, 1966).