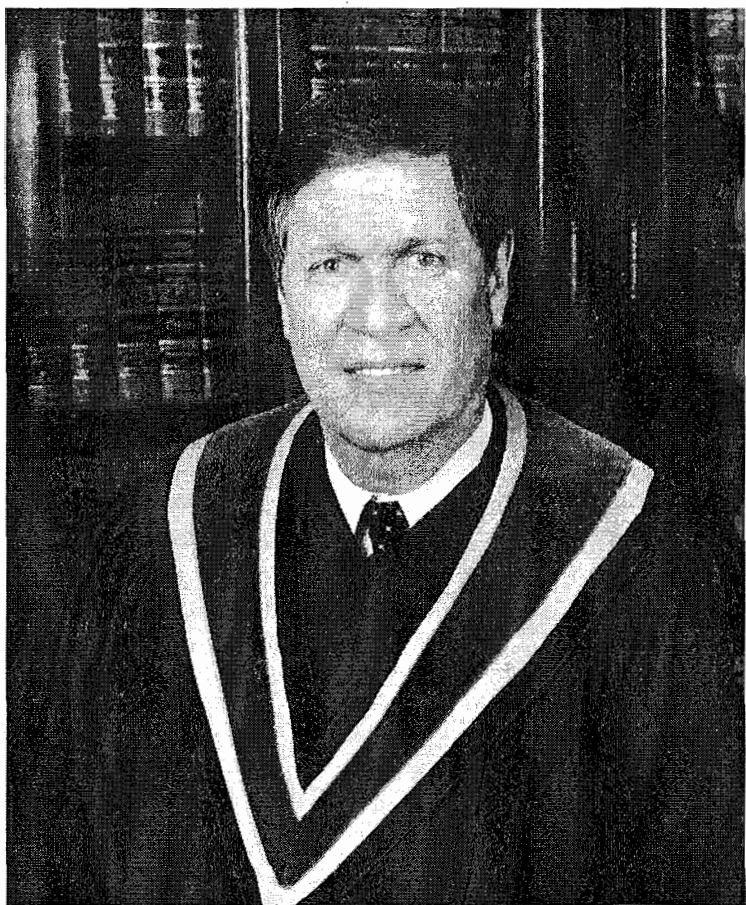


Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

# Installation Ceremony

HONORABLE  
WILLIAM H. LAMB

Friday, February 7, 2003  
Chester County Courthouse  
West Chester, Pennsylvania  
Courtroom No. 1  
10:08 a.m.



HONORABLE WILLIAM H. LAMB

# Proceedings

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MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

(Audience responds, good morning.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Let me assure you that this is the last time in which William Lamb will be involved in any event concerning the Supreme Court where the Supreme Court is late.

(Laughter.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: On behalf of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, I would like to welcome all of you here to this wonderful occasion, this auspicious occasion, where we are about to elevate your friend, father, husband, to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

I have not had time to research the record, but I suspect that this will be the first instance in the history of the Court where a person who served as a law clerk to the Court in the inception of his legal career has ascended to the position of a Justice of this Court. If the historians prove me wrong, I apologize for that fact. But I just thought it should be noted for the record that all clerks who serve on this Court, I am sure, aspire to the position and, Bill, you have accomplished that, and you are to be congratulated for that.

We welcome you on behalf of the Court. We welcome Bill Lamb to the Court. We are excited that he will be joining us in just a few moments. And we know that his, although short, career on the Court will be stellar.

With that, may I introduce the Reverend David J. Duffy for the invocation.

REVEREND DUFFY: Good morning.

(Audience responds, Good morning.)

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REVEREND DUFFY: I must say, Bill, this is a distinct honor and pleasure to be here today, and I thank you for having me. Of all the clergy people that you know, to have this honor is very, very special. Thank you very much.

Let us pray. God, our Father, we pause today to offer our prayers for Bill Lamb as he assumes his role as Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. We find the words of William Penn to his children relating to their civil and religious conduct appropriate for the moment. He said, "Show mercy whenever it is in your power; that is, forgive, pity and help, for so mercy signifies. Mercy is one of the attributes of God. It is exalted in the scriptures and is noble. It is a noble part of his image of men."

The scripture further states, "He has showed you oh, man, what is good and what the Lord requires of you, but to do justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Today we ask and pray that the Lord guide and assist Bill Lamb in the discharge of his duties as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Amen.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you, Reverend Duffy.

For a formal welcome to all of you who are gathered here this morning, may I introduce Joseph E. Brion, Esquire.

MR. BRION: Good morning, everyone.

(Audience responds, Good morning.)

MR. BRION: Before I have a few words to say, I would like Kevin Pierce to sing for Mr. Lamb.

MR. JUSTICE CASTILLE: He can sing for all of us, can't he?

(Laughter.)

MR. BRION: Yes, Judge, for all of us.

(Whereupon, Sargeant Kevin Pierce, PSP, sang "God Bless America.")

(Applause.)

MR. BRION: Thank you.

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MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Excuse me, sir. Thank you, Sargeant.

Mr. Brion, I apologize for the error in your presentation. That is why I have these things, if I can only remember to put them on. Please proceed.

(Laughter.)

MR. BRION: Thank you, Chief Justice.

When you look at our Sargeant, you realize how wonderful our State Police are and how multi-talented they are.

Good morning again.

(Audience responds, Good morning.)

MR. BRION: Good morning on a snowy day. We sure did not pick this, but I really appreciate every one coming out in the snowstorm to honor Bill Lamb. It is my pleasure to welcome the Justices of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the Judges of the Chester County Court of Common Pleas, other members of the Judiciary that are here, Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll, former Governor Mark Schwieker, and all the honored guests.

This is a great day for Chester County and a personal honor for me to have the opportunity to welcome all of you to the swearing in ceremony of the first Supreme Court Justice from Chester County since 1847. A brief history of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court will help us place in context the importance of today's events in Chester County.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania was founded in 1722. Think about that. 1722. And predates the Supreme Court of the United States by 67 years. This is the oldest appellate court in the United States of America. We believe that William H. Lamb is the third Chester County resident to join the Supreme Court. David Lloyd became a Chief Justice in 1717, and Thomas S. Bell joined the Court in 1847. It is pretty amazing, isn't it, Bill?

MR. McERLANE: It is about time.

MR. BRION: When Chief Justice Lloyd held office, the Court met at a town house at 2nd and Market Street in

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Philadelphia. The Court remained there until 1743 when it moved to what is now known as Independence Hall, where it subsequently shared a courtroom with the Supreme Court of the United States. Today a Chester County lawyer, who has practiced in this very courthouse, in fact, in this very courtroom, joins the ranks of the distinguished lawyers who have served on the Court since its inception.

Now about Bill, Pennsylvania's new Justice. I have known Bill Lamb for 25 years. When I first came to Chester County as a young lawyer, he was a District Attorney and always much older than I. Still looks a little older than I am, don't you think?

(Laughter.)

MR. BRION: He went on to assume a political career in the Republican Party, onto both the County and the State levels and was gracious enough to ask me to be part of his team. He has been my mentor, advisor, sometimes my lawyer, and always my confidant, but most of all, he has been my friend.

Those who know him understand that Bill is really focused. When you ask him to do a task, he does it. For example, he was my tennis partner for 20 years. When you asked him to cover a three-square foot area of the court, that is what he did.

(Laughter.)

MR. BRION: He did not move outside that area. He did not go anywhere else on the court. That three-square foot area was his area. If the ball went there, you were fine. If the ball went anywhere else, it was my job.

(Laughter.)

MR. BRION: But now Bill has a new focus. We all know William H. Lamb ascends this high office today not because of friendship or political connection, but rather because he is a lawyer's lawyer, and no one I know serves this profession any better. As a lawyer, he has time and again demonstrated what can only be termed as superior legal skills. Bill is truly a great trial lawyer.

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During his term as District Attorney, he successfully prosecuted a myriad of serious criminal offenders. For instance, Ansel Hamm comes to mind as one of the most notorious. Even after he left that office, his skills were once again called upon by the Commonwealth to undertake the arduous task of special prosecutor in the Johnston case, which he did with great success to the lasting appreciation of the investigating police officers and the citizens of this county.

But Bill's talents do not stop there. He has been recognized over the years as both a skilled and able municipal lawyer, which is pretty interesting when you think about it. Everybody thinks of Bill as a trial lawyer. But when I first met him, he was actually in Tredyffrin Township as the Solicitor for Tredyffrin Township and many years was a municipal lawyer at many night meetings. And he is now included as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He has even dabbled in defense, criminal law. But I will let Mr. Sprague talk about whether the dabbling worked or not.

(Laughter.)

MR. BRION: Bill is not without familiarity to the Supreme Court, having served as a law clerk to the late distinguished Chief Justice John C. Bell and as counsel to the Supreme Court. An honor graduate of Duke University, pretty decent basketball team once in a while, and the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Bill now brings his many legal talents to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, not the least of which is his even-handed judgment and his tremendous character. Besides that, he is a gentleman, and to those of you who really know him, a truly good person who is there to help. Now, his mild-mannered side was not always there, but it is much more evident today, and I credit his calm and friendly demeanor, if you believe all that, to a wonderful lady, his wife, Pat. She is the one who keeps him centered, and it is wonderful that she is here with us today.

I welcome everyone to the ceremony, this very special ceremony for Chester County. It not only provides us with our first Supreme Court Justice since—in 156 years, but it also lets us honor an individual who has given his very best to

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Chester County. Even now when he ascends to the bench of our distinguished Supreme Court, we fulfill his request that we do so in the courthouse, in this courthouse, because he is from Chester County and he wanted as many of his friends and colleagues as possible to be able to participate in this historic moment. And what more can people do to honor him than to be here, and what greater respect can the members of the Supreme Court show than to come to this county to welcome William H. Lamb, Esquire, as the next Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. I welcome each of you to this historic day. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you very much, Mr. Brion.

I discussed this matter with Mr. Lamb before we began today, and he elected not to have introductions made of dignitaries, and for a very good reason. As he expressed it to me, he indicated that each person in this room is of a significant importance to him and that you should all know that. And by beginning the process of recognizing people, it tends, in his mind, and I agree, to diminish your singular importance to his life.

However, I would be remiss if I did not make just a few introductions in this ceremony, for the record, of people who are important not only to Bill, but important to the Judiciary of Pennsylvania. So if you would indulge me, Bill, just a few very brief introductions. On my left is President Judge of the Superior Court, Joseph A. Del Sole.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Seated to the center is his colleague on the Superior Court, Judge James Cavanaugh, with whom you are all familiar.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: And to my right a man, of course, who needs no introduction here in West Chester County, or West Chester, the President Judge of this very august Court, the Court being seated on my left, of course,



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and also a man to whom we owe a great deal of debt of gratitude for making this wonderful courthouse and this beautiful room available to us this morning for this very important occasion, President Judge of this Court, Howard F. Riley, Tuck Riley.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: There are also two other people who should be recognized here. Seated at counsel table to my right, the brand new Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania, a woman whom we have all known who has had a stellar career in public service, Catherine Baker Knoll.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: And seated behind Catherine Baker Knoll, the Minority Appropriations Committee Head, a friend of Bill Lamb's and all of ours, but more particularly, a significant friend to the Judiciary at large, Senator Vincent Fumo.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: The next speaker is on a very tight schedule, as he will explain to you, I am sure. It is my pleasure to introduce to you again a man who needs no introduction in Pennsylvania, Governor Mark S. Schweiker.

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR SCHWEIKER: Thank you, Your Honor. I appreciate the acknowledgment.

I should share this with you, friends, it is under the heading of how quickly things can change. This is probably less than 48 hours after I had finished my term on the 21st, and I had gone to a meeting in one of those tall buildings in Philadelphia, and I had gotten off of the elevator and walked up to the receptionist desk, and she looked up and she said, "And you are?"

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR SCHWEIKER: So how quickly things can change. So, Catherine, enjoy your time of service. Of course, the same I say this respectfully to our new Governor. So I am

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happy to be in your company. I am happy to have gotten here. I am sure you have the same outlook, and I have a hand for Pat and Bill Lamb. I could not be prouder and more supportive.

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR SCHWEIKER: We love the both of you and have great expectations for Bill's, yes, short tenure. I believe he is in the company of fine Jurists who are seated to my left who act in the name of this accomplished Court. It has been meeting a long, long time. I think an awful lot of accomplishment as well.

You know, a long time ago I had the chance to read about some of the work of a Justice Thurgood Marshall, and he was often want to say in the company of fellow Jurists or Americans, he would say, you know, really the only power we have got is grounded in the respect of the people. You often make mention of that and emphasize that figurative foundation, that respect of the people, and you if give that thought, it is ever so true. Yes, intellectual caliber as relates to decisions counts, precedent counts, certainly Pennsylvania's believing that they ought to afford respect to this fine Bench ought to be guaranteed, and I think certainly with the leadership of Justice Cappy and others, that mark has been hit. I think it will be enhanced with the presence of Bill Lamb.

But I mention this for a reason, because as Skip took the time to talk about Bill's career, significant and long as it is, someone who has been involved in municipal law and defense matters and certainly now to become a member of the Court, I think it is safe to say that he understands that enduring decisions and good counsel, whether it is in your municipal law or criminal defense or chasing down some of the perpetrators he did a s DA—and he did that in such memorable and historic and accomplished ways, as well—at the end of the day it was about engendering respect of the people. He has done it so well, and I have come to respect that nature of Bill's and his take on that.

You know, we all remember the Johnston brothers as they literally wreaked havoc in the Chester County area and

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other places. They were evil people. We know that. And it was important for the community to rise up, so to speak, in the form of hard working police officers and, yes, a dogged DA and say, no, no, no. Communities in Pennsylvania and Chester County are going to be about order, not disorder, not about the wanton ways of those kinds of thinkers and evil doers. We are going to confront them.

And like a dog on a bone, Bill and others set out and they grabbed these guys. And, you know, they sit in a prison where they should be for a long, long time. And at the end of that saga, and, yes, after successful pursuit and prosecution, I think the respect of the people did exist here in Chester County. Certainly on the part of those who wear the badge on an everyday basis will attest to the same outlook.

And the point I am trying to make here as Bill takes his place on the Supreme Court, given that the quintessential work that this Supreme Court does to guarantee order and safety in our communities, that I cannot think of a more appropriate perspective, yes, short run—and this really is an aside friends, yes, it was a consideration for me as the sitting Governor, but when it came time to contemplate the kind of person, the kind of biography, the kind of perspective, the take on judicial work, that I found comfortable, was very much a match to Bill's efforts in public policy making career, it was an easy one for me. Thus I mentioned a moment ago that I am proud to have the opportunity to address you and proud to be in Pat and Bill's company and offer these reflections, and, yes, that assessment.

I want to thank the Members of the Senate for seeing the same caliber, and certainly share my sentiments with your colleagues in making sure that Bill has the opportunity to serve. And so with this perspective, brilliant as it is, and appropriate as it is, Bill will take that perspective, and I believe just a talented intellect, and above all—and I believe it is exemplary of every one of the people who operate in the name of the Bench, these are good, caring Pennsylvanians. Yes, they are brilliant intellects, and, yes, they have all the right credentials, and most importantly, leading Pennsylvanians in so many ways. But above all, I think they are good,

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caring people that realize that at the end of the proverbial day, the Court is more than about fine far reaching decisions that endure, it is about all of these things, but to give an impression to the people of Pennsylvania that what you think and what you see and your respect counts.

In that regard this is a historic day for Chester County, but another historic day for the Court in that, again, someone who sees the preeminence of respect of the people of Pennsylvania is also in the place of our friend Bill Lamb who now becomes, and I say this very proudly, as someone who sponsored him, so to speak, Bill Lamb, the next member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the longest running Supreme Court and Appellate Court in the country. Thank you so much, Your Honor.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Yes. As I mentioned, the Governor has to leave for an appointment in his new position. Before you leave, Governor, I, again, as I did at my installation as Chief Justice, would like to thank you for your wonderful career in public service, and particularly thank you for your support of the Judiciary. We appreciate your efforts, and good luck to you, sir.

GOVERNOR SCHWEIKER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: The nice thing about achieving these respective positions is once you serve in them, you are entitled to keep the title forever. So I am aware of the fact that Governor Schwieker, his term is completed, but in my eyes, and I hope in yours, he will remain a Governor of Pennsylvania for a long, long time to come.

This is also true of the position of Lieutenant Governor, and we will now hear from our current Lieutenant Governor, Catherine Baker Knoll.

(Applause.)

MADAME LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KNOLL: Thank you. I do not think anyone wants to follow Mark after

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the Queecreek Mine, do we? God bless him. He was there for all of us, and he stayed there and they all came out safely.

Justice Lamb and your beautiful wife and your family and friends, I am honored to be here today on this very special occasion. And on behalf of Governor Ed Rendell and myself, I want to offer you our sincerest congratulations on your swearing in as this Commonwealth's newest Supreme Court Justice. It is an exciting moment.

Your commitment to the fight for justice is well known to many of us here today, and your distinguished service as District Attorney here in Chester County, as a board member for such great organizations as the Southeastern Pennsylvania Red Cross, the Episcopal Academy, as well as your remarkable legal career, spans four decades. So this has prepared you well to take care of 12 million citizens of this Pennsylvania on its highest court. I wish you well as you embark on this professional endeavor, and I know that you are going to represent all of Pennsylvania with integrity as you assume your new duties.

And I just want to take a few minutes' time, I have a proclamation here for the Honorable Justice William H. Lamb, February 7th, 2003. As Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth, I am delighted to extend my personal congratulations to you on the occasion of your being sworn in as a Justice of this great Commonwealth and our highest court. Our Commonwealth possesses a rich history of inspirational leaders such as you who have sought with enduring vigilance to advance the ideals of community and to promote the principles of integrity, unity and service.

As a Justice, all our citizens trust that you will equitably enforce the rule of law and guarantee the rights and liberties of all Pennsylvanians. Through your dedication and hard work as you embody the spirit of community, as you promote the principles of good character and purposeful living, your past judicial experience has thoroughly prepared you for the challenges that lie ahead. And while serving as a Justice on the Supreme Court represents a significant challenge, I know that

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you are more than prepared for this new endeavor. And so on behalf of all Pennsylvanians, I congratulate you.

I was happy to preside over the Senate when we nominated Justice Bill Lamb, so it was double excitement for me to be here today and to preside over the Senate during that great day. Thank you. God bless you.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you so much, Madame Lieutenant Governor.

I should acknowledge that there are many elected officials in the audience representative of both local and state government. We welcome you all. Mr. Lamb has noted your presence in his mind, and if you would like to be recognized in the formal record, at the conclusion of this proceeding, if you would kindly leave your card with the reporter, we will see that the names are recorded in the record.

Our next speaker is a very distinguished practitioner in Pennsylvania, probably well known to all of you out east, and believe it or not, becoming ever more well known to us out in the hinterlands of Western Pennsylvania. He shares commonality, of course, with Bill Lamb, in that they both were ardent prosecutors, ardent but fair prosecutors, within the systems of this Commonwealth. May I introduce to you attorney Richard A. Sprague.

(Applause.)

MR. SPRAGUE: Good morning.

(Audience responds, Good morning.)

MR. SPRAGUE: Bill, I must say, I would like to very much personally, when Governor Schweiker referred to you as a dog biting on a bone, I think he hit the real right phrase for you.

You know, when Bill asked me to come and speak for him, he asked me to say some nice words for him. And I said, Bill, you know, I would rather lose a tennis match than come and say anything nice about you. But I will tell you what, on a snowy day, I will show up. So here I am.

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Lieutenant Governor Knoll, Chief Justice Cappy, Justices of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, distinguished guests, and Pat Lamb, and members of the Lamb family—and I want to regress for a moment, because they had a very difficult year the past year, and the events of today make the start of this year wonderful. And friends of Bill Lamb, and before I talk about our distinguished new Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, I want to say a word in tribute to Bill Lamb's predecessor. I cannot let this moment go by without expressing my feelings about what a wonderful and warm human being Chief Justice Zappala is and what giant footsteps Justice Lamb will be stepping into.

What a splendid and happy day this day is for Pat Lamb and all the members of the Lamb family and for Bill Lamb. But I want everybody here to know, as happy as it is for them, it is a very, very happy day for me as well, because for this year, for the first time in God knows how long, I do not have to carry Bill Lamb on my back. That load has now been lifted, and I give him to you, and you can carry him.

(Laughter.)

MR. SPRAGUE: And I must say—I mean, I have known Bill Lamb for a very, very long time. And I was impressed with Bill Lamb from the first time I met him. That was decades ago. And we were talking to a group of lawyers, Bill Lamb was trying to educate them in the ways of the law, and I was so impressed then with Bill's ability to think ahead. He was always planning for the future, and I was so impressed with his pragmatic spirit, and I remember well one of the first times Bill Lamb, saying to this group of lawyers—and you have to excuse me to the Supreme Court, but this predates Justice Eakin, because what Bill Lamb said, he said it in poetry. That is an in joke to the Members of the Supreme Court.

(Laughter.)

MR. SPRAGUE: Bill Lamb said to this group of lawyers way back then, "Say it with flowers, say it with eats, say it with kisses, say it with sweets, say it with jewelry, say it with drink, but always be careful not to say it with ink."

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(Laughter.)

MR. SPRAGUE: He was always thinking ahead. And I remember how impressed I also was with his philosophy when he would say, "If at first you do not succeed, adjust your goals."

(Laughter.)

MR. SPRAGUE: Getting serious, I think it is wonderful for the recognition of Bill Lamb to a position of Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. And I think it is wonderful that both political parties have supported him wholeheartedly; that is, except for some character in Allegheny County, and that there has been universal acclaim and appreciation and support for this appointment.

Throughout the years—and I have had the great opportunity to work closely as a personal friend and as an associate, our firms working together, I have come to know Bill very well and to appreciate the qualities. You do not know how this is killing me to say this publicly.

(Laughter.)

MR. SPRAGUE: I have come to know and appreciate the qualities of his heart and his mind, and I do mean this. I have come to know well his basic beliefs, which I think are a model for everyone. Bill believes in the supreme worth of the individual and in the individual's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Firmly believes it.

In addition, he firmly believes that every right implies a responsibility. He believes that the law was made for man, and not man for the law, and he believes firmly that government is the servant of the people and not their master. Bill also believes that truth and justice are fundamental to an enduring social order, and he believes in the dignity of labor. The Court will find he has enthusiasm, diligence, and zeal for a better world.

Now, I must say that I had a little difficulty at first in thinking of the name Justice Lamb. That did not sound too courageous to me. But then I was thinking, well, there was a Justice named Frankfurter, so, you know, what is in a name?



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(Laughter.)

MR. SPRAGUE: Over 2000 years ago, the poet Socrates wrote, "One must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day has been." And I predict in the evening of Justice Lamb's year on the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court will perceive how splendid the year has been and will sorely miss him, and the public will say, a job well done. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you very much, Mr. Sprague, for those astute comments.

Our next speaker also needs no introduction, and she is quite familiar with speaking in public in her profession, an accomplished news reporter who lives in the Carolinas, and I am sure, the apple of Bill's eye. I now introduce to you Amanda Lamb Griffin.

(Applause.)

MRS. LAMB GRIFFIN: Good morning.

Well, while I am comfortable speaking in public, it is very different speaking in front of your father, so I am a little nervous. You know me—most of you know me as Bill Lamb's daughter. In fact, growing up in Chester County, it was hard to believe that I even knew my name was Amanda, because everywhere I went I was Bill Lamb's daughter. I always knew by the tone of voice how people addressed me what they thought of my father. They would either say, "You're Bill Lamb's daughter" or, "You're Bill Lamb's daughter?"

And that actually taught me a very important lesson early on in life; that to be successful and fight for what you believe in means that people will not always like you. But hopefully in the end they will always respect you. And I think my father has that, especially in Chester County.

To understand my father you have to understand how he engaged his family in public service. Like going to church on Sunday mornings, it was not a choice. Before I could drive, I had bumper stickers not on my car, but on my baby stroller, political bumper stickers. Before I could read, I was going door to door handing out campaign literature and shaking

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hands. Before I was old enough to see an R-rated movie, I was watching murder trials in a Chester County courtroom when my dad was District Attorney.

It took me a long time to understand exactly what my father did and just how hard he worked and why he was so well respected. I knew he was not home a lot. He had a lot of meetings at night. I knew his briefcase was always full of important papers, work he had to do long after we went to bed. I knew the telephone rang at all hours of the day and night. I knew he was an important person, but I did not really know why.

As I got older, I learned a lot more about why my father is so well respected, and it is not very complicated. He works hard. He is smart. He is good at what he does. He is a leader. He is fair, and he is honest. In his personal life, he is devoted to his family, his wife, Pat, his children, and his friends.

I had a chance recently to read some old news articles about his tenure as Chester County District Attorney in the 1970s, which we have all heard a lot about this morning, especially the Johnston trial, which I watched when I was 13 years old. He was dubbed a rising star in headline after headline in all of the local papers. Many people had him pegged for office, State office, Congress, National office. But early on he made a choice. He made a choice to set down roots, build a law practice, engage in local politics in Chester County and raise a family.

Now, I am sure there was a part of him at that time and maybe over the years that said, maybe I should have jumped at these opportunities. But the practical side of him felt that his life was here, his family was here, his friends were here. His life was here in Chester County. And so that is why today is such a well-deserved icing on the cake for a man that put so many things, his family, friends, Chester County, above the spotlight.

In many ways, our lives paralleled. I attended Episcopal Academy where my father went to primary, secondary school. I was once again Bill Lamb's daughter, which was not always a good thing, because I was a much better student.

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(Laughter.)

MRS. LAMB GRIFFIN: I also attended Duke University, my dad's alma mater. But after Duke, our paths finally diverged. I did the unthinkable. I did not become a lawyer. In fact, I became the opposite of a lawyer, a journalist.

(Laughter.)

MRS. LAMB GRIFFIN: And something funny happened. I worked in a lot of small towns and cities, and Pat and my dad would come visit, and all of a sudden the tables turned. He became Amanda Lamb's father, and he was proud. And I admit there was a little bit of vindication after being in the shadow of a man for so many years, who is, by all accounts, larger than life, but at the same time I realized that I would never be who I am today without the guidance of a loving father who gave me values, dreams and the guts to chase those dreams.

So in closing, I have one thing to say as I stand here today. I am so honored and so proud to be Bill Lamb's daughter.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you, Amanda.

We will next hear from the second Bill Lamb's daughter. May I introduce to you the beautiful Kate Ross Lamb.

(Applause.)

MS. ROSS LAMB: Good morning.

(Audience responds, good morning.)

MS. ROSS LAMB: When my father was given the tremendous honor of being nominated to the Supreme Court, I began to think about the qualities that one must possess in order to be a Judge. These characteristics, commitment to public service, respect for and knowledge of the law and the ability to listen, are what make my dad so eminently qualified to be our next Supreme Court Justice.

While growing up with my father, I was blessed with knowing that his children and family were the most important

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aspects of his life. Though with the recent addition of our royal poodle, Beau, I am not so sure that still remains true.

(Laughter.)

MS. ROSS LAMB: For more than 30 years, my father has been a beacon of commitment, a champion of all he served, and most importantly, a father and a friend of unquestioned integrity.

Born and raised right here in Chester County, my dad left the Commonwealth only once to attend college, but returned to his beloved Pennsylvania for law school where he attended Penn and started his law career in Philadelphia in 1965 where he clerked for Pennsylvania Chief Justice John C. Bell. I think he knew even back then that he was meant to serve the people. That is where his heart was and has always been.

My father returned to his Chester County roots and started his own firm of Lamb, Windle & McErlane in 1967. Over the next 13 years, he served his community as Assistant District Attorney and District Attorney of Chester County, a career which allowed him to blend the love of the law with his love of public service. He held that position for eight years, all the while giving tirelessly to his clients, his family, and community around him, a tapestry of diversity that I am sure will serve him well over the next months as Supreme Court Justice. We could not possibly have asked more of my dad, yet he always gave us more than we expected. And this tenacity will make a fine addition to this illustrious Court.

Justice Thurgood Marshall once said, "We must never forget that the only real source of power that we as Judges can tap is the respect of the people." I suggest that with the appointment of Justice William H. Lamb, Pennsylvania's respect for the Judiciary will grow immeasurably. We as his family are very proud of this supreme accomplishment and know that my father will exceed all that is expected of him. Congratulations, dad.

(Applause.)

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MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you, Kate. Very well done.

And I introduce to you again a man who needs no introduction in this community, and as Kate just mentioned, Bill's law partner beginning in 1967.

Before doing so, however, I would like to thank him for hosting a dinner last night, a dinner filled with friendship and love and warmth, and also for opening your office this morning—I now say your office—so that we could have a place to gather.

(Laughter.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: While I am doing that, I would like to thank the Sheriff and the County Detectives of this community for making our stay here relatively easy, even in the light of this terrible snowstorm. Now if you could just find a way to open the exits—open the Turnpike between 19 and 20, Joe Del Sole and I will get home some time today.

So without further ado, may I introduce Bill Lamb's law partner, James E. McErlane, Esquire.

(Applause.)

MR. McERLANE: May it please the Court. I do not want to repeat what we said last night, however, there is one story I would like to share this morning, because most of the people, if not all in this room, have at one time or another talked to Bill Lamb by telephone.

On a spring day in 1978, some bright young lawyers in Allegheny County were under consideration for appointment to the Court of Common Pleas of that county. At 7:05 one morning, the phone rang. The man answered it, and the voice on the other end said, "Ralph Cappy, this is Governor Schapp."

The future Chief said, "Yeah, and I'm Mickey Mouse," and hung up.

(Laughter.)

MR. McERLANE: Fortunately, the Governor called back.

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Judge Del Sole also received a call that morning, but the Governor only had to call once. Bill Lamb called Governor Schweiker three or four times.

(Laughter.)

MR. McERLANE: At our dinner last night Judge Midge Rendell from the Third Circuit asked to please convey her best wishes. She could not join us today, but she did ask to be remembered. And last week Judge Curt Joyner, from the Federal District Court, who was one of our own and worked with Bill in the District Attorney's office, asked to be remembered to you. And he and Midge send their best.

Once upon a time there were three young lawyers working for a Ted Rodgers, an inspirational man. On January 1, 1971, Judge Rodgers, Ted Rodgers, became Judge Rodgers of the Commonwealth Court. Literally at Ted's direction, Bill Lamb, Susan Windle and Jim McErlane formed a law firm. We didn't know what we were doing, but it seemed like a good idea at the time.

(Laughter.)

MR. McERLANE: Susan, who is Ted's widow and with us today, retired in 1994. Bill Lamb retires today.

(Laughter.)

MR. McERLANE: Throughout the history of our firm, Bill has been our senior partner. He has been our number one guy, and most importantly, our friend. Shortly after we formed the firm, Bill was elected as District Attorney of Chester County, and he was the real hard charging DA. He was an aggressive prosecutor, and he always wanted the toughest cases. Today, fittingly, he and Pat sit at the prosecutor's table.

Pat Lamb is a wonderful lady of grace, charm and dignity, and even greater courage. Her radiance today is a tribute to that courage.

Bill Lamb is the kind of person that Theodore Roosevelt had in mind when he said, "It is not the critic who counts, rather, the credit belongs to the man in the arena, whose face is marred by sweat, who may make mistakes, but knows there

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is no effort without error; the man who strives to make things happen, who knows and shows great enthusiasm and has enjoyed the triumph of high achievement." The word enthusiasm has its root to the Greek word "entios," which means the spirit. This man has spirit.

There is no higher achievement for a lawyer than to sit as a Justice of the Supreme Court. Those seats are reserved for those people who have lived and loved the law, and for those whose career does not end on the Supreme Court, but rather begins anew.

Bill Lamb was born to practice law. His legal skill is like that in the natural athlete, the fellow who walks out on the field, picks up the ball and plays on the first team, his hand fits the glove. Law schools are supposed to tell us or to teach us how to think like a lawyer. I think law school may have gotten in his way, because he started out way ahead. Legal training for him was just a side line to the beginning of his profession.

When his mentor, Chief Justice Bell, was inducted as the Chief Justice of Pennsylvania in 1961, one of the speakers said, this is a man of outstanding reputation, boundless energy, independence in thought and judgement, with a passionate desire to do what is right, tempered always by an intelligent and sympathetic recognition of the ever changing conditions of our lives. Those words are Bill Lamb's heritage.

Bill Lamb knows that the law is not books and rules, but rather people. He knows, as Justice Cardozo tells us, the law never is, but is what it is about to be. Bill Lamb has never been content to live in a house. He builds it, he fills it, he expands it, and he lives in it. Bill Lamb knows that this beautiful courtroom is a lot more than wood and paint put together. The walls of any courtroom bear witness to the success and failures of our people. The courtroom is a place which fills the imagination and memorializes the past. It links our principles with our deeds.

Judges are the elite of our profession, and the Supreme Court is the ultimate. They are few in number, for by the very nature of the system, there are but comparatively few men

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and women who have the character and quality required for this task. Such is the man we present to you today.

Before I conclude, I would like to make two points. I would like to echo what the Chief Justice said about the staff. Our County Commissioner Staff have been outstanding. Sheriff Bunny Welsch, Chief Al DiGiacomo, Chief Moyer, Chief Bohn, in planning this event. All of those people went above and beyond. They planned for any contingencies. The fact that we had six or eight inches of snow just meant a couple more phone calls this morning, because they had everything in place to handle anything that could have happened.

Secondly, I would like to say that in the last couple of weeks, these hectic couple of weeks, Bill Lamb has frequently come in and marveled at the expressions of support, help and friendship from the Supreme Court. Never a day went by when one or more of you was not offering some assistance, and Charlie Johns the Prothonotary. And I want the people of Chester County to know that not only are these people of uncommon wisdom, but they are people with a common touch. And they may be extraordinarily competent, but they are extraordinarily nice people, and we thank you very much for coming to Chester County and for being so kind the last couple of weeks.

(Applause.)

MR. McERLANE: Judge Riley asked me to say to the Chief Justice and President Judge Del Sole that this is a wonderful courtroom for oral argument. We would be delighted to have you back and please do.

(Applause.)

MR. McERLANE: To Pat and to Bill, we say good luck, God speed, we are with you all the way, we have been, we will be, and that God bless.

(Applause.)

MR. McERLANE: May I read the proclamation before you present it, Chief?

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Please do so, sir.



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MR. McERLANE: To the Honorable William H. Lamb, Esquire, of the County of Chester, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, whereas a vacancy has occurred for the Office of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Therefore, know you that reposing a special trust and confidence in your prudence—Governor Rendell obviously saw something we have never seen.

(Laughter.)

MR. McERLANE:—reposing a special trust and confidence in your prudence, integrity and ability, and under my authority under the Constitution of the Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in such case made and provided, I have nominated, and by and with the advice and consent of two-thirds of all of the Members of the Senate, have appointed and do by these presence commission you to be Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you very much.

Would you please come to the bar, Mr. Lamb, and would you all please rise.

(So done.)

WILLIAM H. LAMB: This bible is from the Episcopal Academy. I just wanted to let you know.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: If you would raise your right hand and repeat after me, placing your left hand on the bible.

(So done.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: I, and state your name.

WILLIAM H. LAMB: I, William H. Lamb.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Do solemnly swear.

WILLIAM H. LAMB: Do solemnly swear.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: That I will support, obey and defend.

WILLIAM H. LAMB: That I will support, obey and defend.

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MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: The Constitution of the United States.

WILLIAM H. LAMB: The Constitution of the United States.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: And the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

WILLIAM H. LAMB: And the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: And that I will discharge the duties of my office.

WILLIAM H. LAMB: And that I will discharge the duties of my office.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: With fidelity.

WILLIAM H. LAMB: With fidelity.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: So help me God.

WILLIAM H. LAMB: So help me God.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Congratulations, Justice Lamb.

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Thank you.

(Standing ovation.)

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Thank you all, and, please, please, be seated.

(So done.)

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: This is really an out of body experience for me. I have been a real pain in the neck the last couple of weeks, because I usually plan these events for other people. They are not planned for me. And I am, quite frankly, overwhelmed at all of the fuss—and I have said this to the sheriff and the good people who helped us—that is being made over this, but I am truly grateful.

May it please the Court, Mr. Chief Justice, colleagues, Members of the Court, I welcome you to Chester County. Thanks have been said to all of those who helped in planning

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this affair, and I can only echo those thanks, particularly on this lovely morning.

The sheriff called me at a quarter of 6:00 this morning, and she said, "Don't worry. We are all ready, we are up and going." But the County Detectives, the West Chester Police, the courthouse staff, we thank President Judge Riley for preempting his courtroom today. Very kind of them. I want to acknowledge the members of the Chester County Bench in front of whom I have practiced for many years, and I consider to be friends.

Let me talk a little bit about the speakers who spoke this morning and thank them collectively and then individually. Skip Brion has been a good friend for many, many years, and I consider him to be like a brother. We have been through a lot of wars together. And, Skip, I appreciate very much your very kind remarks. Skip is the host of our reception after that today as well.

The only thing I can say about Dick Sprague is, Charlie, would you check to see if there are any cases in front of the Supreme Court that I can possibly sit on and vote on?

(Laughter.)

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Richard is the most tenacious lawyer I have ever met in my life, and I consider it to be a real privilege and pleasure to have worked with him over the years. And, frankly, it has been a great opportunity for our two offices to work together, because it has been a wonderful experience not just for me, but for our office as well, so I thank you. And, Dick, I thank you very much for your kind remarks.

Lieutenant Governor Knoll, thank you very much for coming. You are very kind. You did preside over my nomination confirmation, and I appreciate that, and I appreciate your trekking down here from Harrisburg to be with us today. And, obviously, I appreciate Governor Schweiker for being with us as well.

My two daughters. Amanda has been a star in many ways. She did very well in high school, she did very well in

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college, she went on to graduate and graduated number one in her class and is a star in television in North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina. However, having said all of that, the thing that makes her the biggest star is that she is the mother of our grandchild, three-year old Mallory, and we all wish that Mallory could have been here today, but you really do not wish that.

(Laughter.)

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Mr. Chief Justice, you made a comment which leads me to my comments about Kate. Kate is our politician.

And, Lieutenant Governor, you better warn the Governor, because when she gets a little bit older, she may well be running for Governor in this Commonwealth.

But you made a comment, sir, about the fact that once you have the title, you have it forever. And when we told Kate and Amanda around Christmastime, or around Thanksgiving, that this was a possibility that it might happen, Kate sat at the dinner table and she scratched her head and she pondered, and she said, "Dad, does this mean that when I get married the invitation will read Justice and Mrs. William H. Lamb?"

(Laughter.)

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Jim McErlane and I have been friends for more years than either one of us would like to remember. We have been through a lot of wars together, and I consider Jim to be a friend, a colleague. Jim, I love you and I love your remarks, and I thank you very much for that.

Father Duffy, the Interact League; right? Episcopal Academy, Malvern Prep. Thank you very much for coming.

And, Sargeant Pierce, I have heard you many times, and you honor us by being here today. You are multi-talented, and we appreciate your kindness in coming today.

A couple things about the Chester County Bench. One in particular that I want to bring to your attention, Judge Paula Ott—where are you, Paula—is the incoming President of the State Trial Judge's Conference, and I know some of the

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members of the Court do that, but that is a great honor to Chester County, and I look forward to being with you in a couple of weeks.

A lot of people—these kinds of things do not just happen. There are a lot of people to thank when you get the opportunity and the privilege to be nominated for this position, and I just simply want to acknowledge them here today. Some of them are here, some of them are not.

Manny Stamatakis, a good friend. And, Manny, you were very helpful in this whole process, and I am very grateful to you. Thank you.

Senator Fumo as well. A stand-up guy. You are my friend. You are my friend, and that is exactly what he said to me when this whole issue of me becoming a Supreme Court Justice occurred.

Dick Sprague. You were there for me, and I appreciate it. Skip, you as well.

Alan Novak.

David Girard di-Carlo.

Bob Jubelirer.

Senator Thompson.

Senator Greenleaf.

Senator Brightbill.

Senator Mellow.

Jim Sheehan.

Steve McNett, and David Sanko.

Many people have helped me in my career. Jim McErlane, and one of my daughters mentioned Chief Justice Bell. A bit of trivia. He was the only person in the history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to hold all three highest offices in Pennsylvania. He was elected as Lieutenant Governor when Governor Martin went to the United States Senate. It was back in the days when you could do that early and get seniority. Chief Justice Bell became the Governor for 19 days

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and then, of course, he was the Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. A wonderful man.

Ted Rubino, Jim's uncle, who was a great friend and a great mentor, and I was very proud to have known him. He started me on my political career, and I am very grateful to him.

Ted Rodgers. We all remember Ted Rodgers, and I am so happy that Susan is here with us today. Ted was one of the most brilliant minds any of us have ever encountered, and an absolutely wonderful, wonderful human being.

Chief Justice Zappala. I had the opportunity to represent Chief Justice Zappala along with Justice Cappy, Chief Justice Cappy, a number of years ago. And that is really what started my relationship with the Court, and I will be forever grateful to Chief Justice Zappala as well.

The DA's office. The Chester County DA's Office really helped shape my career with guys like Jim MacElree—and where is Joe Melody, my former first assistant? Now I think he calls himself Judge Melody, retired. And a number of others, Anthony Sarcione, Bill Mahon, guys that started in the DA's office, and that was a wonderful experience. That was when it was us against the world.

I got very close to the police community, and I am still close to the police community. I know that Mike Carroll, he is here—Mike, are you here—chief of West Goshen, who is the Head of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association.

Tom Armstrong—is Tom here? Tom is Chief from my Township and the Head of the Chester County Chiefs of Police Association.

Pat Meehan. Pat, are you here? Pat was invited.

I see Jim Sheehan, the counsel for the former Governor Schweiker and Governor Ridge.

And, Jim, I thank you for your help. And Jim and I worked together a lot of years when we did some work for the governor's office. And, of course, my own staff and my own staff to be, seated right here for our new adventure as a Supreme Court Justice.

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Couple of other funny things. When I was nominated, I got a phone call from two members of our Bench, Judge Shenkin and Judge Sanchez, and I was not there. They left a message and they said I needed to remember only one word, and that was affirmed.

(Laughter.)

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Now to the job. I have enormous respect for Chief Justice Cappy and the members of this Court, and I want to say publicly what Jim McErlane said as well, to thank the Chief Justice for your kindness and your courtesies over the last several weeks in helping us to get up and running. We really said that we were going to be hitting the ground running, and we are going to be hitting the ground running Monday morning. My office is right down the street here. We have got a great staff of seasoned people. A number of members of the Chester County Bench are a bit angry with us because we have purloined some of the staff, but we have got a good staff, and we look forward to working for the betterment of the Court.

I know this Court very well. I have done a lot of work in front of the Court. I do not think that anybody has to tell me the amount of work involved. I know that, and I look forward to doing that. Although my tenure will be short, my effort will be long, and you can be assured of that.

I am looking forward to a collegial Court, to a Court that works together, and I am, frankly, very honored and very humbled to be a part of this Court. So I look forward to working with all of you.

I bring no agenda to the job. My only objective is to do a good job for the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and I look forward to working with all of you, and I thank you for this opportunity.

Lastly, some of the speakers have alluded to the fact that our family has been through a tough time in the last six months, and that is true. But I do not know how you define courage, but I have seen my wife go through it. She is the toughest, most courageous lady I know. You are my hero, sweetheart, and I love you.

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(Standing ovation.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you, Justice Lamb, and welcome.

I was going to mention, and, again, with Justice Lamb's indulgence, just two other people. He mentioned one, but I think it is of note, because neither of these people are from your community, not only are they instrumental in Bill Lamb's life, but they have been instrumental in the operation of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

First, the immediate past counsel to the Governor of Pennsylvania, both Governors Ridge and Governor Schweiker, Jim Sheehan seated on my left and mid audience, and a former Chairperson of the Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners. As you all know, Bill Lamb served until this week as Chairperson of the Lawyers Fund For Client Security, a very important Board under the auspices of the Supreme Court.

But we have another very important person whose past service to this Court and the community at large is very important to us. He is an attorney from the Philadelphia area. He has served as Chairperson of the Pennsylvania Law of Board Examiners, the Board which is responsible for admitting lawyers to practice in Pennsylvania, attorney Tad Decker seated on my right in the first row. Thank you both for coming.

Before concluding the ceremony, this very wonderful ceremony, I would like to offer my colleagues and introduce them to you, a moment to welcome our newest colleague, the Junior Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. And our tradition is, of course, to begin with the Junior Justice who served the shortest term of Junior Justice, as in my 13 years on the Court, that may I present to you my esteemed colleague, Justice Michael Eakin.

(Applause.)

MR. JUSTICE EAKIN: Thank you, Bill, for all the accouterments and robes and kind things said. The measure of having made it to the top in Pennsylvania is having Sargeant Pierce sing, and I see he is on twice.



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(Laughter.)

MR. JUSTICE EAKIN: I guess by now most know that I am the Jurist who sometimes writes in rhyme.

Though it does not always please my Chief,

I will offer you one today that is brief.

Although you think you have been a pain in the neck,  
You are now a Justice, so what the heck.

And though the year's challenge may make you nervous,  
I think you will enjoy your Supreme Court service;

For with your perspectives, skills and legal ability,

You will make the transition with grace and facility;

The surface of your service has barely been scratched,

But we know we have a colleague of quality unmatched;

We all know you are exactly the sort,

Of man whose integrity will enhance this Court.

Pennsylvania expects you will make great contributions,

And be a proud asset, but yet have no illusions;

For despite all these kudos, the day's major thrust

Is I am no longer the Junior Justice.

(Applause.)

MADAME JUSTICE NEWMAN: Very good.

MR. JUSTICE EAKIN: I did not bring out the harmonica.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Well, let us see. Thank you, Mr. Justice Eakin, for the rhyming you have been makin'.

(Laughter and applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: You know, my thoughts when these words are written, But today I must admit that I am smitten, With the warmth and joy you bring In your formal welcoming.

(Laughter and applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Unfortunately, this rhyming thing is contagious.

May I next present our very astute colleague who is completing his studies for a Masters of Law at the University of Virginia, Justice Tom Saylor.

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(Applause.)

JUSTICE SAYLOR: Thank you, Chief.

I would like to add my welcome to our new colleague, Bill Lamb. Bill and I have known each other professionally, socially, politically for many years, and so it is a personal pleasure to be able to welcome Bill to the Court and have the opportunity to serve with him in the coming months. In both of my campaigns Bill was a key part and an instrumental supporter, and so he had my appreciation then, and he has my best wishes now.

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you, Justice Saylor.

On my immediate left, of course, is the person who holds us together and who is instrumental in the collegiality we have been able to develop over these recent years on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. The first elected woman Judge of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, may I present Justice Sandra Newman.

(Applause.)

MADAME JUSTICE NEWMAN: Thank you, Chief Justice.

And I just want to say that I have a treat for all of my fellow Justices, including our new Justice, Justice Lamb now, is I cannot write verse, but I am a hell of a rap writer. So you have something to look forward to this year.

But seriously, Justice Lamb—and it sounds real good to say that. I have been saying it on e-mail, I have been sending his e-mail to Mr. Chief Justice Lamb for the last couple weeks just to see how it feels. Thank you so much, Justice Eakin. I just want to say that I really feel like family when I come to Chester County for many reasons.

Pat, what they have said about you just does not really go there, because you are just the best. And, Bill, your speech, just absolutely—and not because I am a woman, but I think

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every man here had tears in their eyes, and we have all been with you and praying for you. And thank God we are all here and well today.

And to the Judges and everyone from Chester County, including my old friend, the sheriff, Bunny Welsch, and I think ex-president Judge Gavin said it so well, Chester and Montgomery County were once together at one time and a single county, so I feel like this is part of my county. And I see you all around, and so many good friends from the Bench of Chester County, some good joke writers from—of my Justices do not always know where the great jokes come from, Jim. I will have to start giving you more credit.

But anyhow, I just want to wish Bill and Pat and their families, Amanda and Kate, that you have a long tenure and that it be a healthy one and a productive one. And I know the work will be there. That is the least that we have to worry about. And that the collegiality I know is going to be even better now that you are on the Court. Thank you.

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you, Justice Newman.

On my immediate right, of course, is the Senior Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, a man who I am delighted to serve with and a colleague of remarkable accomplishment. May I present Justice Ronald D. Castille.

(Applause.)

MR. JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Chief Justice Cappy.

Welcome aboard, Bill. You probably could not have gotten a way to here without the help of your partner, Jim McErlane. I would note for the record that he has served honorably in the United States Marine Corps. He probably needed that discipline to keep you in line all these years. But welcome to the Court.

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A lot of people do not realize the amount of work that this Court does. Bill has jumped in feet first and has volunteered to do all kinds of work. I am not talking out of school, but his first assignment was to look at the allocatur opinions, which are the appeals to us, and he said, give me all the allocatur opinions that are circulating, I would like to look at them. And I looked at how many were circulating, and there were about 300 of them, and if you spent a half an hour reading each one of those, you could take it to April. But that is the kind of work we do. And instead of starting Monday, I would suggest that you get your staff and start later this afternoon.

(Laughter.)

MR. JUSTICE CASTILLE: But you will see a tremendous amount of work on this Court, and it is a great Court, and I think it has the respect of the people. When Ann Annstein called me ten years ago when Bill was the Vice Chairman of the Republican Party and asked if I would run for the Supreme Court, our Court at that time was in a little bit of turmoil, which fortunately for all of us on the Board, and for all the citizens of Pennsylvania, that is now behind us. And I think this is a Court that has the respect of the citizens. And your addition to it for the time that you will be here, Bill, from my personal experience in working with you over the years, I know you will be an illustrious justice and you will contribute greatly to the well being of this Court and to making it the great Court that it is now. So welcome aboard.

JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you, Justice Castille.

I echo the sentiments of all of my colleagues, all of the speakers, and particularly want to emphasize the remarks made by Governor Schweiker. We in the Judiciary realize that we have no army, we have no purse. We can only succeed in our responsibilities as a co-equal third branch of Government if we have the utmost respect and support of the people. That is what we are, and that is what we need to have. And the addition of Bill Lamb to this Court, as I am sure you all know,

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will enhance our ability, will enhance the perception not only of the Supreme Court, but will enhance the perception of the entire Judiciary among the people of Pennsylvania.

Bill has been a stellar politician, he has been an extraordinary District Attorney, a wonderful lawyer and a devoted family man. We all know that. And now he will have to change gears for about 11 months. He will have to become impartial, dispassionate, non political and operate as he always has in his life, with extreme integrity and truthfulness. So we look forward to having Bill Lamb on this Court, because I am certainly confident, as are my colleagues, that this transition for him will be minimal. And when you get him back, Jim, in nome del padre.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Thank you, Your Honor.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: I am delighted to again present Sargeant Pierce, who will give his rendition of "Proud to be an American."

(Whereupon, Sargeant Kevin Pierce, PSP, sang "Proud to be an American.")

(Standing ovation.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Thank you, Sargeant Pierce. Always inspirational.

Before the benediction, I would like the record to reflect that Justice Russell Nigro unavoidably had a conflict in his schedule. He has communicated directly with Justice Lamb and with me. He apologizes for his inability to be here. It was unavoidable, and he also welcomes you to the Court.

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Thank you.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: For the benediction, may I again ask Reverend Father David J. Duffy to come forward.

REVEREND DUFFY: Chief Justice Cappy, you presided over an extraordinary event today, and I'm glad you gave the final blessing there at the end.

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(Laughter.)

REVEREND DUFFY: To a Great Nation Under God, we ask God to bless each one of you in your work, to keep it that way. We ask God's special blessing on the new Justice of the Supreme Court, Bill Lamb. God bless you all.

(Applause.)

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Justice Lamb has asked me to invite all of you to a reception in his honor just across the street, whatever that means.

JUSTICE WILLIAM H. LAMB: Turk's Head.

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE CAPPY: Turk's Head.

We again thank all of you for coming. This concludes this ceremony. And I am going to do something that I have not done for all of my years on the Supreme Court, because we have no gavels on the Supreme Court. This session of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in West Chester County is hereby adjourned.

(Applause.)

(Proceedings concluded at 11:40 a.m.)

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