

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with The Honorable Tommy Jewell

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Jewell, Tommy, 1954-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell,
Dates:	July 24, 2019
Bulk Dates:	2019
Physical Description:	6 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:57:48).
Abstract:	State court judge Tommy Jewell (1954 -) became the first African American judge in the state of New Mexico upon being appointed to the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court, later serving on the 2nd Judicial Court District bench and New Mexico's Children's Court. Jewell was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on July 24, 2019, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2019_067
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

State court judge Tommy Jewell was born on June 30, 1954 in Tucson, Arizona to Bobbie and Tommie Jewell, Sr. He graduated from Mazano High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1972, and earned his B.A. degree in 1976 and his J.D. degree in 1979, both from the University of New Mexico.

Jewell was first hired by the Legal Aid Society where he worked as a staff attorney. Following his marriage to fellow lawyer, Angela Jewell, in 1981, they opened their own law firm: Jewell, Jewell, Kelly & Kittson, in 1982. Jewell left the firm when he was selected judge of Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court in 1983, making him the first African American judge in New Mexico. In 1991, he was appointed to the 2nd Judicial Court District bench, where he served in Children's Court. President Bill Clinton selected Jewell to serve on the State Justice Institute Board of Directors in 1995. He served on the nonprofit's board until 2010. Jewell retired from his judgeship in 2005, and opened Jewell Law Office, a general practice firm, with his wife. In 2012, he served a six month interim term as the City of Albuquerque's independent review officer while the city's police department was under investigation by the Department of Justice, and the search for a permanent review officer was in progress.

Jewell is president of the NuRho Foundation, has a fifth-degree black belt in Isshin Ryu Karate, and serves as 8th District Counselor for Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He has also received numerous awards for his work as a state court judge, including recognition for Outstanding Judicial Service by the State Bar of New Mexico in 1997, and Outstanding Judge by the Albuquerque Bar Association in 2001. In 2005, he also received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the University of New Mexico School of Law; and, in 2019, Jewell and his wife both earned an Asante Award, presented by the New Mexico Black Lawyers Association.

Jewell resides with his wife in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and they have two adult children, Thomas and Taja, and two grandchildren, Ian and Skyler.

Tommy Jewell was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on July 24, 2019

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell was conducted by Larry Crowe on July 24, 2019, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and was recorded on 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files. State court judge Tommy Jewell (1954 -) became the first African American judge in the state of New Mexico upon being appointed to the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court, later serving on the 2nd Judicial Court District bench and New Mexico's Children's Court.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Jewell, Tommy, 1954-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Jewell, Tommy, 1954---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

State Court Judge

HistoryMakers® Category:

LawMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell, July 24, 2019. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell, Section A2019_067_001_001, TRT: 1:28:25 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell, Section A2019_067_001_002, TRT: 2:28:36 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell, Section A2019_067_001_003,
TRT: 3:31:00 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell, Section A2019_067_001_004,
TRT: 4:29:41 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell, Section A2019_067_001_005,
TRT: 5:29:27 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Tommy Jewell, Section A2019_067_001_006,
TRT: 6:30:39 ?