# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers ® Video Oral History with Diane B. Patrick

## **Overview of the Collection**

**Repository:** The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616

info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Patrick, Diane B., 1951-

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick,

**Dates:** September 12, 2019

Bulk Dates: 2019

**Physical Description:** 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:46:22).

**Abstract:** Lawyer Diane Patrick (1951-) served as managing partner at Ropes & Gray law firm,

and as First Lady of Massachusetts from 2006 to 2015. Patrick was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 12, 2019, in Boston, Massachusetts. This collection is

comprised of the original video footage of the interview.

**Identification:** A2019 099

**Language:** The interview and records are in English.

# Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Lawyer Diane Patrick was born on December 17, 1951 in Brooklyn, New York to John Charles Bemus and Lilian Bemus. At a young age, Patrick and her family moved to the Hollis neighborhood in Queens. In 1972, she received her B.A. degree in education from Queens College of the City University of New York. Patrick went on to receive her J.D. degree from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, California in 1980.

Between college and law school, Patrick worked as an elementary school teacher in the New York public school system. After graduating from Loyola Law School, Patrick joined O'Melveny & Myers as an attorney. In 1983, as a third-year associate, Patrick was asked to move to New York City along with three other associates and two partners to open the firm's New York office. Three years later, Patrick and her family moved to Boston, Massachusetts, where she served as university attorney for Harvard University before being promoted in 1992 to director and associate vice president of human resources. Patrick worked as an attorney at Hogan & Harston in Washington, D.C. for one year before returning to Boston in 1995 to join Ropes & Gray as a labor attorney. From 2006 to 2015, she served as First Lady of Massachusetts during her husband Deval Patrick's two terms as Governor. In 2010, Patrick was appointed chair of the diversity committee at Ropes & Gray; and, in 2013, she was promoted to co-managing partner at the firm. Patrick retired from Ropes & Gray in 2016.

Patrick served on the boards of the Epiphany School, the Posse Foundation, Massachusetts General Hospital, Partners Healthcare, United Way of Massachusetts Bay, and Jane Doe, Inc. She has volunteered with the Commonwealth's Foster Care Review Unit, the Boston Bar Association's Lawyer for a Day program, and the Boston Women Build in the Bayou project. Patrick served as a trustee for ArtsBoston, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Cambridge College, and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

While in law school, Patrick received the American Jurisprudence Award, Best Appellant Brief in Statewide Moot Court Competition, and Outstanding Graduate Award for outstanding academic performance and citizenship. In 2015, she was inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Bostonians and received the Cushing-Gavin

Management Attorney Award for Excellence from the Labor Guild. She received the Champion of Justice Award from Discovering Justice in 2017, and the Boston Bar Foundation's Public Service Award in 2019. Patrick and her husband, Deval Patrick, have two children: Sarah and Katherine.

Diane Patrick was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on September 12, 2019.

# **Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Diane B. Patrick was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on September 12, 2019, in Boston, Massachusetts, and was recorded on 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Lawyer Diane Patrick (1951-) served as managing partner at Ropes & Gray law firm, and as First Lady of Massachusetts from 2006 to 2015.

#### 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:

Patrick, Diane B., 1951-

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

#### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews Patrick, Diane B., 1951---Interviews

# **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Ropes & Gray

# Occupations:

Lawyer

# **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 Diane B. Patrick, September 12, 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 Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_001, TRT: 1:28:22? Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_002, TRT: 2:33:28? Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_003, TRT: 3:39:40? Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_004, TRT: 4:30:33? Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_005, TRT: 5:31:13? Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_006, TRT: 6:30:11? Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_007, TRT: 7:36:14? Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_008, TRT: 8:36:49? Video Oral History Interview with Diane B. Patrick, Section A2019\_099\_001\_008, TRT: 9:19:52?