

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT
COURT FOR THE WESTERN
DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

Presentation of Portraits

of the

HONORABLE STEPHEN S. CHANDLER
HONORABLE LUTHER BOHANON
HONORABLE FRED DAUGHERTY

BEFORE THE HONORABLE LUTHER B. EUBANKS

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
October 6, 1983

Special Guests

Mr. and Mrs. Sim K. Sims

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Chandler Sims

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Patterson Sims

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney L. Cook

Mrs. Luther Bohanon

Mr. Clarence C. Allen

Mrs. Fred Daugherty

Mr. Phil E. Daugherty

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Portrait Hanging Committee

Michael Minnis,
1982-83 President of the Oklahoma City Chapter,
Federal Bar Association

D. Kent Meyers,
1983 President of the
Oklahoma County Bar Association

Herbert T. Hope,
U.S. District Court Clerk for the
Western District of Oklahoma

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Today the federal service of three former Chief Judges of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma with a total combined service of 84 years will be honored and memorialized by the unveiling of portraits to be hung on the south wall of the ceremonial courtroom.

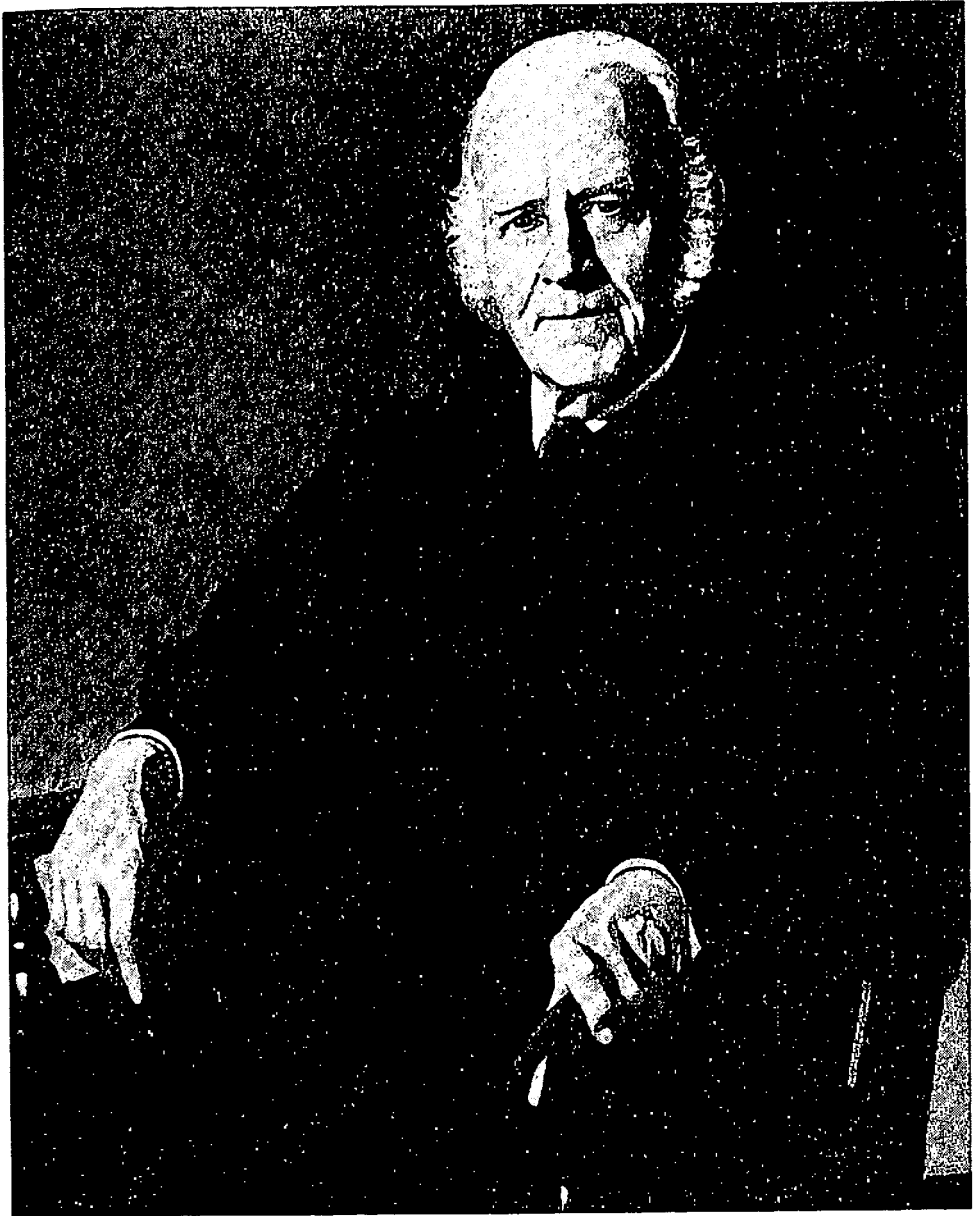
Agenda

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Entrance of the Judges | |
| Opening Remarks | Luther Eubanks, Chief Judge |
| Introduction of the Committee | Michael Minnis, Chairman |
| Unveiling of the Portraits | Kent Meyers, Oklahoma County Bar Association President |
| Featured Speaker | Jim Turner, President-Elect of the Oklahoma Bar Association |
| Closing | Michael Minnis |

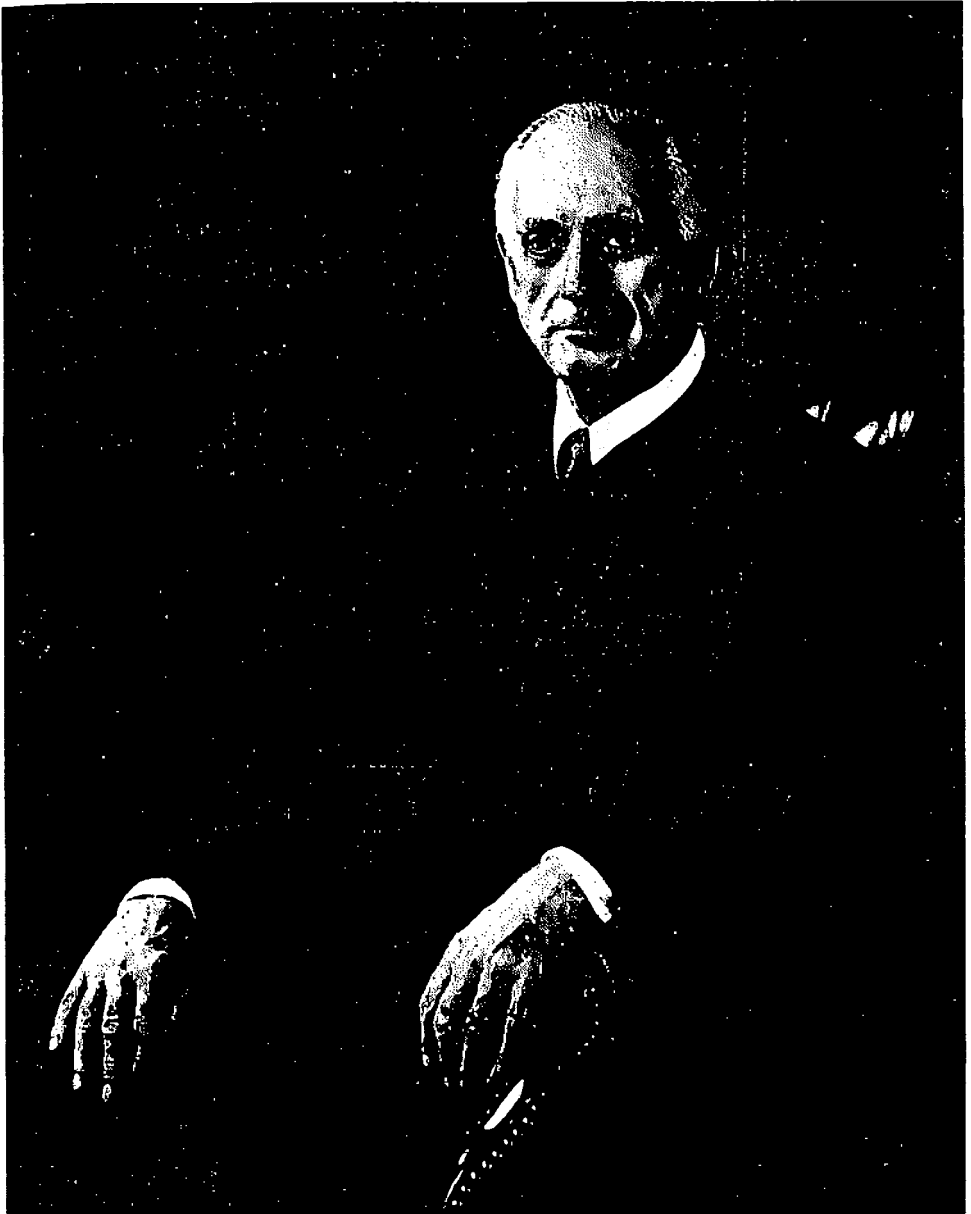
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HONORABLE STEPHEN S. CHANDLER



HONORABLE LUTHER BOHANON



HONORABLE FRED DAUGHERTY

Proceedings

THE COURT: It's a real pleasure for me and the other active Judges of this Court to be sitting here today en banc for this festive but important occasion.

It may come as a surprise to some, but this good committee that I will introduce a little later on has been working on this ceremony, planning it since last December. I noticed in my file that the first letter to them after they had accepted and our Court had approved the composition of the committee was dated December 22nd. There were just several impediments in the way of getting it done sooner. We didn't want to do this thing halfway. It's too important to all of us for that.

We think that the committee has done a splendid job, and I will introduce them a little later on. During the early formation of it, of the committee, that is, in getting the program organized, we had a little, oh, I wouldn't call it exactly opposition, but static. Some of the people said, "Well, hanging is too good for them. We ought to give them the gas chamber." But we got these things resolved and got the pictures that you are going to see or the portraits in a minute.

I think you will agree with me, they're real nice. We put the drapes on them or the G. S. A. did very recently. This is a place where I hold Court. So I have been enjoying them for a few weeks. Here, oh, a week-and-a-half ago, I noticed in the back of the room some of the jurors were looking at the portraits up there. I couldn't tell exactly which one they were pointing at, which one of the portraits they were pointing toward, but one of them said, "Would you buy a used car from that man?" I don't much believe it was Judge Vaught they were pointing at.

May I present the Judges who sit with me here, our active Judges of this Court. Judge Russell to my far left, Judge West to my far right, Judge Thompson and then Judge Daugherty, Senior Judge Daugherty, Senior Judge Bohanon, and Judge Chandler. We would like at this time to call upon the honorees, Judge Daugherty, to introduce the members of his family that are here today with us and any other guests that he may have. Judge Daugherty.

JUDGE DAUGHERTY: I'm very pleased to present my wife, Betsy.

Would you stand, Betsy, please.

THE COURT: Well, Phil was going to be here. I guess he was unavoidably detained at the last minute.

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Judge Bohanon, you have some special guests here.

JUDGE BOHANON: Yes. I have my dear wife here, and I would like to introduce my wife, Mary Bohanon. She is here with Mrs. Barefoot. I would like to introduce Frances Barefoot.

I have a special reason of longstanding to introduce my old classmate and friend of mine that's been since we graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1927, former president of the Oklahoma Bar Association and great lawyer, Lee Thompson. I would introduce Mr. Allen.

THE COURT: You might or Judge Chandler either one.

JUDGE BOHANON: I would like to introduce Clarence C. Allen of Tulsa who is the artist of the portrait. I think I know of myself, and I think partly of Judge Chandler, but I don't know. Judge Chandler can tell you about that.

THE COURT: Is he here? Yes. Thank you. Thank you. May I call upon Mr. Curtis with Curtis Studios. Is he here? He prepared the very beautiful picture portrait that you are going to see a little later on of Judge Daugherty. Mr. Curtis.

Now, Judge Chandler, would you present to this audience the guests that you have here.

JUDGE CHANDLER: It looks like I have quite a few. When you say family, to me it means family. Beginning at the far end is my son-in-law, Sim K. Sims, next to my daughter, Mrs. Sim K. Sims. Next Mary Sims, my granddaughter-in-law, and Frank Patterson Sims, my grandson, and Mary Cook and Mr. Cook, her husband, Stephen Chandler Sims, my grandson. Now, are there any more?

THE COURT: Thank you, thank you. May I present to you this committee. Frankly, quite seriously, every member of the Bar here would like to have served on this committee to honor these great men. But too many committee men would have made for further delay. So the committee was selected based upon their title at that time.

Mr. Mike Minnis was at the time of the selection of this committee the president of the local Federal Bar Association. He was selected as the chairman of the committee. Mr. Kent Meyers was the then president of the Oklahoma County Bar Association, and then Colonel Hope, our Court Clerk, was the third member of the committee.

Let me introduce these people to you, and then we'll call on Mike Minnis who is the chairman of the day and the chairman of that committee to take over the program.

Mr. Hope, most of you know him, but stand up, would you please, our Court Clerk, Colonel Hope.

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Kent Meyers, yes.

We're not going to pass up the opportunity to present our dear friend, Circuit Judge Holloway. We thought about inviting you to sit with us, Judge Holloway, but you haven't yet invited any of us to sit with the Circuit. When you do, we'll reciprocate.

Mr. Minnis, would you take over, please, sir.

MR. MINNIS: Thank you very much, Judge Eubanks, honor Judges, members of the Judiciary and special guests. Ladies and Gentlemen, I was named to chair this committee as Judge Eubanks said because of the particular position I occupied at the time which was president of the Oklahoma City chapter of the Federal Bar Association.

In that capacity, I considered service on this committee as a duty of office. However, in my personal and professional capacity, I am most pleased and honored at this opportunity.

It is fitting and it is proper that lawyers and citizens of this republic honor those who have served. In this case, a total of eighty-four years.

Before we have the unveiling, I would like to honor or recognize another person who has helped our committee. That is the chief deputy who has helped Mr. Hope, Frank Bonsiero. Would you stand, please.

Committeeman Kent Meyers will preside over the unveiling. Mr. Meyers.

MR. MEYERS: May it please the Court, honored guests and friends, let's get right to the unveiling which, of course, is why we're here. I would like for you to withhold your applause until we have unveiled all three portraits. Then we can show our appreciation to all three Judges simultaneously.

Judge Stephen Chandler was appointed United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma in 1941. He served as Chief Judge of this district from 1956 until 1969.

Judge Luther Bohanon was appointed United States District Judge for the Western, Eastern and Northern Districts of Oklahoma in 1961. He served as Chief Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma from 1969 to 1972.

Judge Fred Daugherty was appointed United States District Judge for the Western, Eastern and Northern Districts of Oklahoma in 1961. He served as Chief Judge for this district from 1972 to 1982.

Now, let's show our appreciation to these fine jurists.

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MR. MINNIS: Thank you very much, Mr. Meyers. On occasions such as this, it is usual to have a speaker make some brief remarks. Here to do that for us today is the president-elect of the Oklahoma Bar Association, Mr. Jim Turner. Mr. Turner.

MR. TURNER: Chief Judge Eubanks, members of the Court, friends, relatives of the honorees, guests, we are here to recognize three Judges who have served as Chief Judge in this district, now on senior status, and to further honor their service on the bench which has added to the excellence in this district.

I would like to address the essence of each, as I see it. When Judge Chandler was Chief Judge, his caution to young lawyers newly admitted to the Federal Bar was direct and simple. "Pursue the truth and all else will fall in place", mindful that the zeal to win, the burden of clients and causes, would blind some from seeing that truth is the cornerstone of justice in a free society, and he was outlining a standard, a clear standard of the kind of practice that would exist in this district.

A clear path to follow, difficult to pursue, as all of us connected with the Court realize when confronted with complex issues and myriad facts, connected, if at all, by invisible thread. Goethe, the poet, said, "It is easier to perceive error than truth because the former lies on the surface while the latter lies in the depth where few are willing to search." Judge Daugherty has not only made that search, but lawyers and Judges agree that few have made the search with the same level of skill, ability, discipline and intelligence.

A clear path, difficult to pursue, requiring courage to follow. Federal law cuts across divergent customs, thoughts, and beliefs. People want to believe that they seek the truth but sometimes not when change is required, and when truth flies in the face of that which has long been accepted, and change becomes inevitable, the resentment can be full of sound and fury signifying—signifying that Judge Bohanon has demonstrated great courage in re-routing much traveled roads when the ruts have cut deep into the freedom and liberty of others.

Thus, we're here because this Court and these honorees have paid heed to the wisdom of Emerson when he said, "Any violation of truth is a stab at the health of human society."

Thank you.

MR. MINNIS: The portraits having been unveiled and brief remarks which I would like to say at this time I consider very excellent, and I appreciate Mr. Turner, having been delivered, the committee's role in this is at an end. I now turn these proceedings over to Chief Judge Eubanks.

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THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Minnis. Your committee has our complete appreciation for a good job well done. I don't intend to introduce all of the honored guests here today, because that would require that we introduce almost everyone. But I do see Judge Dick Jones, great jurist of many years in this state, former Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals and later a District Judge. Stand up, Judge Jones.

Do we have any other members of the State Judiciary trial or appellate level? He is the only one I saw.

Well, as I say, if we get into introducing every honored guest—I wanted to limit it to introducing those members of the Judiciary.

Let me say this: That the speech that Mr. Turner made was indeed profound. These great Judges have made that search for truth. It's said that trial Judges continue on a search for truth and appellate Judges search for error. Believe me, they're able to find it pretty often.

Judge West was talking about the trial Judge situation here last year. He is being quoted all over the country now. I even heard it recently in Washington at the Judicial Conference. When he made his now famous definition of an Appeals Court Judge, he said, "An Appeals Court Judge is somebody who arrives on the scene after the battle is over and shoots the wounded."

All right. Now, we're going to ask if those former active Judges or now active Judges, Senior Judges, have any comments. Judge Chandler, would you like to say anything to this audience?

JUDGE CHANDLER: I think so, Mr. Chief Judge.

THE COURT: Go ahead.

JUDGE CHANDLER: I would like to call attention to the wonderful portrait Mr. Allen painted of Judge Bohanon. I wanted to thank him, and he also painted mine. I want to thank him and his wife for coming. Would you care to say anything, Mr. Allen?

MR. ALLEN: All I can say is I never painted two better faces in their positions since I have been painting portraits.

THE COURT: Thank you. Judge Bohanon.

JUDGE BOHANON: Thank you, Chief Judge Eubanks. I don't think of anything I should say or that is necessary for me to say except I do want to repeat what Judge Chandler said with reference to Clarence Allen. My wife was kind of in the twilight zone of whether it was good or bad. But I think it's a good job. I want to thank Mr. Allen for the work that he did.

I would like to recognize Judge Jones back there. I'm glad he is here today. I would like to say Judge Barefoot has shown up. He

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is my old law partner. I would like to recognize him. Would you stand up, Burt.

I would like to say to everyone my son, Dick Bohanon, he is with the Bankruptcy Court, asked me to express his regrets. He couldn't be here. He is on the road to attend a seminar in bankruptcy proceedings. So he is not here or his wife. Otherwise they would be here.

THE COURT: Thank you. Super Chief, do you have anything to say?

JUDGE DAUGHERTY: I want to express to Ernie Curtis, my friend of many, many years, my appreciation for his taking the responsibility of doing what he did to bring this portrait to this room. Considering what you had to work with, Ernie, you did a great job. Thank you.

MR. CURTIS: Thank you, thank you.

THE COURT: Judge Thompson.

JUDGE THOMPSON: I wouldn't add to what has been said.

THE COURT: Judge West?

JUDGE WEST: Nothing.

THE COURT: Judge Russell?

JUDGE RUSSELL: No, sir.

THE COURT: Is there anything further to come before this ceremony or meeting by anyone else? If not, we will stand adjourned. Thank you very much.

(Conclusion of proceedings.)