

INTRODUCTION OF HON. PATRICIA M. WALD

DAVE LAWRENCE

Thank you, and let me take this moment to thank all of the dedicators. I had not planned to talk about campaigning in Iowa, so fortunately I did not get preempted. Today's speakers have brought together a lot of aspects of the judge's career, and they represent what is a really remarkable breadth of impact that she has had on the legal profession both domestically and internationally. And they prove the point that I would like to make today: that though we have dedicated this journal to trailblazers, to great jurists, and also to figures of the international community, we have rarely had a chance to recognize someone who is each of these, as we do today.

We have just heard tributes from a number of great figures in the bar who have a great deal of personal experience with Judge Wald. My role in this ceremony then cannot be to add to their anecdotes and their stories, because as a third-year law student, I could not. Rather, I would like to provide some context for their remarks and to help newcomers here understand the significance of the dedication. The *Annual Survey of American Law* has been dedicating each year's volume to a great jurist since the journal's inception in 1942. We have dedicated sixty-five volumes to Presidents,¹ judges,² professors,³ and international figures.⁴ And even a brief look at Judge Wald's career reveals that she is well-placed among them.

Patricia Wald's career in the legal profession began in 1948 when she entered Yale Law School. Most schools, including Harvard, were not yet admitting women, and she was one of only a dozen women in the law school class. Though she was an editor of

1. *See, e.g.*, Dedication to Herbert Hoover, 1949 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. iii (1950).

2. *See, e.g.*, Dedication to Judith S. Kaye, 1994 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. viii (1995); Dedication to Thurgood Marshall, 1983 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. xviii (1984).

3. *See, e.g.*, Dedication to Ronald Dworkin, 63 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. vii (2007–2008); Dedication to Herbert Peterfreund, 1976 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. xvii (1977).

4. *See e.g.*, Dedication to Desmond M. Tutu & Alexander L. Boraine, 1999 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. viii (2000).

the law review [the Yale Law Journal],⁵ she had less opportunity than male members of her class. When she was entering Yale Law in 1948, the *Annual Survey* was dedicating its seventh volume to Arthur T. Vanderbilt,⁶ for whom this building is named and who that year became the chief judge of the New Jersey Supreme Court.⁷ In 1952, Judge Wald clerked for Jerry Frank of the Second Circuit, during which time Judge Frank decided the appeal of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.⁸ After the stint in private practice at Arnold & Porter, she took a break from the legal profession, as we have heard about. She reentered legal work by doing part-time consulting for the Department of Justice and then in 1968 took on full-time responsibilities with the Neighborhood Legal Services Corporation. In 1968, the *Annual Survey* was honoring Russell D. Niles, both a former dean of NYU Law and the chancellor of the entirety of NYU, and we dedicated that year's volume to him. In 1979, Patricia Wald became *Judge* Patricia Wald when President Jimmy Carter nominated her for the D.C. Circuit, and she was [confirmed] by the Senate.⁹ In that same year, the *Annual Survey* dedicated its volume to Judge David Bazelon, who was just then retiring into senior status from the same D.C. Circuit.¹⁰ I think any great dedicatee's description could end right there. I could remark how she took up the judicial mantle and was an exemplary figure on the bench. But as I said at the beginning, her career has had remarkable breadth.

In 1999, she left the D.C. Circuit to become a [United States] representative at the ICTY [International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia], as we have heard about. In 1999, we dedicated our volume to Alexander Boraine and Desmond Tutu,¹¹ themselves very important figures in the international community. So, just as the judge was moving her career to the international arena, we were turning our attention in the same direction. Since then,

5. See 60 YALE L. J. (1951), available at <http://www.yalelawjournal.org/images/mastheads/60.pdf> (listed under her maiden name, Patricia McGowan).

6. Dedication to Arthur T. Vanderbilt, 1948 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. iii (1949).

7. 2 JOHN R. VILE, GREAT AMERICAN JUDGES, AN ENCYCLOPEDIA 775 (2003) (entry for Arthur T. Vanderbilt).

8. Patricia Wald, *Six Not-So-Easy Pieces: One Woman Judge's Journey to the Bench and Beyond*, 36 U. TOL. L. REV. 979, 981 (2004–2005).

9. Dedication to Russell D. Niles, 1968/69 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. vii (1968).

10. Dedication to David L. Bazelon, 1979 N.Y.U. ANN. SURV. AM. L. xvii (1979).

11. Dedication to Desmond M. Tutu & Alexander L. Boraine, *supra* note 4 at viii.

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Judge Wald has been an important figure in the international community, serving on all manner of commissions and in all manner of advisory capacities that go beyond the description I could give.

That brings me to the point I began with. We have dedicated to trailblazers, we have dedicated to great jurists, and we have dedicated to great international figures. But we have not had the chance to recognize someone who is each of these, and the woman to whom we are about to dedicate the sixty-sixth volume is just that. Judge Wald's career has spanned time, role, and geography in a truly remarkable way. Judge Wald, we are here today to honor you, but at the same time, we here on NYU's *Annual Survey* are very honored ourselves by the opportunity to do so. We are proud to record your achievements, your contributions, and your ongoing legacies. And we will have a great challenge, I am thinking especially of our new Executive Board, to produce a publication befitting your contributions. On behalf of the entire editorial staff, it is my pleasure to take up that challenge and formally dedicate the sixty-sixth volume of the *Annual Survey* to you, Judge Patricia Wald.

