

United States Court of Appeals

For the Seventh Circuit
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Judge Richard Dickson Cudahy

Judge Richard Dickson Cudahy was born in 1926 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter, he assumed senior status in 1994. Prior to his appointment, Judge Cudahy was the resident partner in the Washington, D.C. office of the former Chicago firm of Isham, Lincoln and Beale. He received his B.S. degree from the United States Military Academy at West Point and his J.D. from Yale Law School. He served as law clerk to Judge Charles Clark of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and in the Office of Legal Advisor, U.S. Department of State. Judge Cudahy served as Chief Executive Officer of Patrick Cudahy, Inc and as the Commissioner and Chairman of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, where he participated in many important decisions involving the energy crisis, pricing of public utilities, environmental issues, and nuclear power. He has been a visiting professor at Marquette University Law School, the University of Wisconsin, DePaul University College of Law, and George Washington University School of Law. He received honorary degrees from Ripon College, DePaul University, Wabash College, and Stetson University.

Judge Cudahy served as the President of the Milwaukee Urban League, a trustee of the Environmental Defense Fund, President of the Law Club of Chicago, and Chairman of the International Human Rights Law Institute at DePaul University. He was Chairman of the Wisconsin Democratic Party from 1967-68 and was a candidate for Wisconsin Attorney General in 1968.

He was a scholarly writer of articles in areas of environmental law and public energy law and was widely published in law reviews and other legal publications. He was an unusually productive judge, penning opinions at a high rate that were frequently cited by other judges – a sign of influence.

In 2012, to celebrate Judge Cudahy's distinguished career as a jurist, the *Yale Journal on Regulation* published a tribute to him, asking contributors which included his colleagues on the bench and some of his former law clerks, to reflect on his remarkable legacy and imprint on the law. One commentator noted, “. . . Judge Cudahy's corpus of . . . opinions reflects the qualities I observed in him during my clerkship and continue to admire, including his keen intellect, commitment to justice and fairness, and deep insight into the way the law works on the ground.”