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Newsmakers

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Jaeckle Retires After 72 Years of Practice

Edwin F. Jaeckle, UB Law School class of 1915 and one of Buffalo's most influential citizens, has retired from the practice of law and moved to Rochester, Minn. Before his retirement, Jaeckle, 94, was Buffalo's oldest working lawyer. He concentrated on corporation, insurance, utility and estate matters.

He and his wife Erma plan to spend winters at their home in St. Petersburg, Fla. He will, however, continue to serve as a "counsel" to Jaeckle, Fleischmann & Muegel, the Buffalo law firm he had headed.

"I thought it was about time to retire," he says.

Jaeckle, once New York State's Republican Chairman, was a key political adviser to the late Gov. Thomas E. Dewey. He was a driving force in the creation of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library system and Roswell Park Memorial Institute, and played a leading role when the formerly private University of Buffalo merged with the State University of New York.

He was the Law School's Honorary Chairman for its 100th birthday celebration last year. The Law School's Jaeckle Center for State and Local Government is named for him, as is the Jaeckle Award. ■

Stock Cop Gary Kaminsky '85 Cracks Major Case

Gary S. Kaminsky, 27, cracked Wall Street's second-largest insider trading scandal in June. The Williamsville, N.Y. native, who works as a lawyer for the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Enforcement Division in Washington, D.C., graduated from UB Law School in 1985.

Kaminsky's detective work uncovered suspicious trading that led to charges filed by the SEC alleging that Stephen Wang, a junior analyst at Morgan Stanley & Co., sold confidential information to Fred C. Lee, a Taiwanese national, who made \$19

million in profits on advance notice of upcoming deals. The alleged volume of illegal profits would be the biggest since Ivan Boesky's \$80 million in illicit earnings.

Kaminsky attended Williamsville South High School and was graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While at UB, he got his first taste of securities law at the Buffalo firm of Lippes, Kaminsky, Silverstein, Porter, Mathias, and Wexler, where his father, Allan (UB Law, class of 1955), is a partner.

After law school, Kaminsky spent six months trying to get a job with the SEC. He began in a low-level office job obtained through a temporary employment agency before he finally landed his position as an SEC attorney in January, 1986.

This was the second insider-trading operation Kaminsky helped investigate. He says he was glad his work led to such a coup in the SEC's war against insider trading.

"It's gratifying," he said. "I just hope people get the message." ■

Mark O'Connor '68 Defends "Ivan the Terrible" in Israel

For six years, Buffalo lawyer Mark J. O'Connor, class of 1968, defended Ivan "John" Demjanjuk, who was eventually found guilty in Israel of being the notorious death camp guard recalled by Treblinka survivors as Ivan the Terrible. Convicted by three Israeli judges, Demjanjuk's death sentence is now on appeal.

Demjanjuk was a Ukrainian immigrant who came to the United States in 1952 and went to work on the Ford assembly-line in Cleveland. He was stripped of his U.S. citizenship and extradited to Israel in 1984 after a Nazi ID card bearing his photo and name was given by the Soviet government to the U.S. Department of Justice and eventually passed on to the Israeli government.

The identification of Demjanjuk by those claiming he was Ivan the Terrible became the center of O'Connor's ultimately unsuccessful defense, which he undertook

from 1981 to 1987 both here and in Israel. O'Connor's defense strategy: that Demjanjuk was a victim of mistaken identity and of forged evidence from the Soviet Union, which considered him a traitor.

Before the trial ended, Demjanjuk's family fired O'Connor as chief defense counsel, replacing him with his Israeli assistant Yoram Sheftel. O'Connor says the Israeli court was always open to the introduction of defense evidence, and gave Demjanjuk a fair trial, but he feels that Sheftel mismanaged the case. He says he never would have defended Demjanjuk if he'd ever doubted his innocence.

O'Connor is now at work on a book with Robin Moore, author of *The French Connection*. ■

Dillon Elected Erie County District Attorney

Kevin M. Dillon, class of 1976, has been elected Erie County district attorney. A former criminal law associate in the district attorney's office, he is following in the footsteps of his father, Hon. Michael F. Dillon '51, presiding justice of the Appellate Division, New York State Supreme Court, Fourth Judicial Department, who is a former Erie County district attorney.

Gov. Cuomo recently appointed Dillon, a Democrat, interim Erie County district attorney to succeed Richard J. Arcara, a Republican, who resigned to become a U.S. District Court Judge. In November, Dillon was elected for the balance of Arcara's term, which extends through 1989. It will be filled for a full four-year term in November, 1989.

The Erie County district attorney's office, the largest in upstate New York, handles about 50,000 cases a year and employs 85 attorneys. In appointing him as interim district attorney, Cuomo said Dillon is "a widely respected, highly capable attorney of solid integrity. He has the intelligence and background to carry out the duties of district attorney." ■