



## **A TRIBUTE TO JUDGE STANLEY S. BROTMAN**

When the Honorable Stanley S. Brotman took senior status in April of 1990, the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey lost the full time services of one of its most pragmatic and efficient members. During his fifteen years on the federal bench, Judge Brotman has earned the reputation of a fair and honest judge who consistently encourages settlement over self-serving litigation.

Born in Vineland, New Jersey on July 27, 1924, Judge Brotman first answered his country's call to service during the Second World War. From 1943 to 1945 the Judge served in the Counter-Intelligence Corps and the Office of Strategic Services in Burma.

Judge Brotman was educated at Yale University, receiving a B.A. in 1947. Following his tenure in New Haven, he attended Harvard Law School from which the Judge obtained an L.L.B. in 1950. While at Harvard, Judge Brotman displayed his advocacy skills, winning the Ames Moot Court Competition in 1950.

An exemplary citizen, the Judge again entered the military during the Korean War. He was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the Armed Forces Security Agency, serving from 1951 to 1952. Judge Brotman continued his military affiliation through the American Legion and the Jewish War Veterans.

Judge Brotman entered civil practice in 1952, working as a solo practitioner in Vineland until 1957. Thereafter, he was a partner at the firm of Shapiro, Brotman, Eisenstat & Capizola until his appointment by President Gerald R. Ford on April 23, 1975 to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.

Dedicated to the profession, Judge Brotman served as the President of the New Jersey State Bar Association from 1974 until his appointment to the federal bench. His dedication to the profession was exemplified by his concern for the less fortunate, as evidenced by his serving as Vice President of Legiscops Inc., a corporation providing legal services to indigents. Judge Brotman was also an active participant in the Cumberland County and American Bar Associations, and was a member of the American Judicature Society. The Judge was similarly active in the community. He served as the Director of the Vineland Chapter

of the American Red Cross in 1955, and as a Trustee of Newcomb Hospital from 1953 to 1968.

Soon after joining the bench, Judge Brotman granted summary judgment to the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration after the Administrator's order to reduce tolls was challenged by the Delaware River Port Authority—a difficult decision in the midst of the energy crisis. Judge Brotman's decision in *Delaware River Port Authority v. Tiemann*, 403 F. Supp. 1117 (D.N.J. 1975), *vacated*, 531 F.2d 699 (3d Cir. 1976), *reinstated*, 421 F. Supp. 142 (D.N.J. 1976), and subsequent reinstatement after further determinations, are reflective of his commitment to doing what he believes is right.

Perhaps most exemplary of the Judge's refusal to be swayed from his beliefs, even in the face of controversy, was his decision to sever the proceedings in *United States v. Vastola*, 670 F. Supp. 1244 (D.N.J. 1987). Facing a mammoth twenty-one defendant indictment, Judge Brotman took the relatively unheard of step of splitting the case: now a common practice. The result was four convictions and fourteen guilty pleas—an outcome significantly better than the government could have expected from a combined trial.

In a similar vein, Judge Brotman determined, in *Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union Local 54 v. Danzinger*, 536 F. Supp. 317 (D.N.J. 1982), *rev'd*, 709 F.2d 815 (3d Cir. 1983), *rev'd*, 468 U.S. 491 (1984), that the New Jersey Casino Control Commission was not preempted by federal labor law from imposing sanctions against unions to prevent the nascence of organized crime in Atlantic City. Judge Brotman's decision was upheld by the United States Supreme Court in an opinion penned by Justice O'Connor. In 1985, Judge Brotman upheld the random testing of jockeys for drug and alcohol use in *Shoemaker v. Handler*, 608 F. Supp. 1151 (D.N.J. 1985), as a reasonable regulation of horse racing. These are but a minor sampling of the well-reasoned decisions rendered during the Judge's tenure in the District of New Jersey.

Judge Brotman is, of course, a family man too. He has been married since 1951 to Suzanne S. Brotman. They have two children, Richard and Alison. The Judge also has been involved in the religious community. He served as the Director of the Beth Israel Congregation from 1972 until 1974.

The New Jersey Bar has benefitted in many ways from Judge Brotman's diligent performance of his judicial duties. Hopefully, the Judge will continue to sit for years to come.