

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

GARY W. ALLEN

Gary W. Allen retired in September, 2005 after serving for 20 years as Director of the 50-person Aviation & Admiralty Litigation staff of the Torts Branch, Civil Division of the Department of Justice with responsibility for the prosecution and defense of all aviation and admiralty tort litigation brought by or against the United States and its departments and agencies.

A District of Columbia native, Mr. Allen graduated Phi Beta Kappa from The Ohio State University in 1969, where he worked as a flight instructor and was active in student political organizations, and received his Juris Doctor in 1972 from The Georgetown University Law Center, where he served as an editor of the Georgetown Law Journal. After working for a summer and during his third year in the FAA Chief Counsel's Office, he was accepted into the DOT Honors Program and did rotations in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, the National Transportation Safety Board, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the FAA Litigation Division, where he stayed at the completion of the Honors Program, becoming a supervisory attorney in 1976.

He moved to Justice in 1980 as the Assistant Director for Aviation Litigation, and was promoted to Director of Aviation & Admiralty in 1985. He has tried many complex aviation cases throughout the United States and is three circuits short of having argued in every US Court of Appeals. In his last several years at DoJ, he successfully defended the first case attempting to use the Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) activation as a basis for liability against FAA controllers and counseled NASA following the loss of COLUMBIA.

His duties as Director included the oversight and management of ongoing litigation, with particular emphasis on major aircrash cases and review and approval of settlements both within the Director's authority and for transmittal to senior officials. Professionally, Mr. Allen is Editor of the Journal of the Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association, has served as Chair of the ABA Tort and Insurance Practice Section's Aviation & Space Law Committee and as a Governing Committee Member of the ABA Forum on Air and Space Law, and has spoken on aviation litigation in venues from Boston to Bangkok. He was the DoJ Chapter President of the Senior Executives Association, which

represents the interests of SES-level career government professionals, holds a commercial pilot certificate with instrument and multiengine ratings, is a single and multiengine flight instructor and, as befits his former position, is also a recreational boater.

Personal interests in addition to flying and instructing include both listening to and performing traditional, contemporary, and bluegrass gospel music; motor vehicles of all kinds, specifically including his motorcycle and diesel-pusher RV; and his two grandchildren. He and his wife Marie, another recent federal retiree, celebrated their retirement by moving from Alexandria to Governor's Land in Williamsburg, Virginia.