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ADDRESS OF
HONORABLE GRIFFIN B. BELL,
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
BEFORE
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

- - -

Thursday, December 7, 1978

Biltmore Hotel
Los Angeles, California

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(This transcript was prepared from a tape recording.)

1 THE ATTORNEY GENERAL: Thank you, John Taylor,
2 American Bar President Shep Tate, State Bar President Dave
3 Levy, bar leaders, ladies and gentlemen. I appreciate Shep
4 Tate being here. I have a lot of trouble with my accent.

5 (Laughter)

6 He led the way.

7 (Laughter)

8 I didn't know Dave was from Selma, Alabama. He has
9 lost his accent.

10 (Laughter)

11 He seems to think he may lose something else, his
12 integrity.

13 (Laughter)

14 Dave, I will give you fair warning. They tell a
15 story around Washington about the man who was sent to Nevada
16 to be the territorial governor. He wrote back and said this
17 is no place for a Christian, and I did not remain one long.

18 (Laughter)

19 President Carter sent me a copy of a speech yester-
20 day and asked me if I would deliver it.

21 (Laughter)

22 It would be entitled "Los Angeles Revisited."

23 (Laughter)

1 I did not respond. I simply left town.

2 (Laughter)

3 Between the President and the Chief Justice, they
4 have given me an unusual year.

5 (Laughter)

6 I have always known that a person could be a
7 prisoner of events, and they have certainly made me into a
8 prisoner.

9 Shep referred to the response to the President's
10 speech. I must say, Shep, that the response of the American
11 Bar was of equal vigor.

12 (Laughter)

13 I want to say that not only am I not going to repeat
14 the speech, I want to say here and now that I am proud to be
15 a lawyer.

16 (Applause)

17 I think lawyers do serve the public interest. I
18 think we all try to. And in defense of the President, I
19 think he was exhorting us to do that. I don't think any great
20 harm was done by the President or the Chief Justice. I think
21 we are all better for it. It made us assess or reassess our
22 responsibility as lawyers, as judges, whatever our role might
23 be in our justice system.

1 I bring you greetings from Washington. Washington
2 is a place where they have great interests of the moment.
3 One we are having trouble with now is the ethics problem. I
4 spoke in Fort Worth two or three weeks ago and as a present
5 unbeknownst to me they handed me a pair of lizard skin
6 cowboy boots, and somebody said they are worth more than \$35,
7 which is a rule. I thanked them and told them it cost the
8 government a lot of money deciding what to do with these
9 boots, I would have to get an opinion from the Office of
10 Legal Counsel.

11 (Laughter)

12 I took the boots under my arm and went to the Dallas
13 Airport. I never had had on a pair of cowboy boots, but the
14 FBI agents thought I ought to try them on, so I got one on my
15 right foot. I couldn't get it off.

16 (Laughter)

17 I had my foot up in the air, two agents pulling on
18 the boot. It suddenly dawned on me that Jack Anderson might
19 be in the lobby.

20 (Laughter)

21 I got the boot off, got back to Washington, we run
22 an open department so I put them over in the press office,
23 they are on exhibit there. I started the Office of Legal

1 Counsel to work. They said we have already been down this
2 road before. Ben Civiletti had just made a speech in Dallas
3 and they gave him a cowboy hat. So we have a pair of boots
4 and a cowboy hat there now. We don't know what to do with
5 them. We can't keep them because they are worth more than
6 \$35 each. The Smithsonian says they don't have any need for
7 them.

8 (Laughter)

9 So I hope you don't have a present here for me today.
10 But if you do, I want an affidavit from all of the federal
11 and state judges that whatever you want to give me is not
12 worth more than \$34.95.

13 (Laughter)

14 It is a great pleasure to be here and I want to
15 talk to you a few minutes about what we are doing at the
16 Department of Justice, because we have the same interest there
17 as you have. The Department of Justice belongs to the lawyers
18 and the judges and to the American people and we try to keep
19 that foremost in our minds.

20 When I became Attorney General, I discovered several
21 controversial pieces of unfinished business at the Justice
22 Department. These included, among others, the investigations
23 of the FBI break-ins in New York, the alleged South Korean

1 bribery on Capitol Hill. I spent a great deal of time and
2 energy on these inherited land mines during my first months.

3 I recall in 1977 someone said you are not to refer
4 to these things as land mines. I said, well, I will probably
5 lose my life on account of them. They said, no, you might
6 only lose a leg or an arm, you may not be done in altogether.

7 (Laughter)

8 We worked out of most of those things and in the
9 last few months I have been able to devote most of my time
10 to development of long-range reforms of great importance to
11 the justice system and to the entire Nation. I am now near-
12 ing the end of my second year as Attorney General, and I
13 think it is an appropriate time and an appropriate occasion
14 to make an accounting to the Nation of the important things
15 we feel we have accomplished and what we hope to do in the
16 future. There is certainly no more appropriate place than
17 this closing session of the centennial of one of the great
18 bar associations in our country.

19 My review will cover four broad areas and I then
20 want to conclude by telling you about one major new reform
21 that is being developed.

22 The first category on the agenda is what have we
23 done to improve the Justice Department as an institution.

1 When the President asked me to take this job, we agreed that
2 my first priority should be to continue the efforts which
3 had been begun by Attorney General Edward Levi to extract
4 the Justice Department from the Watergate era. The depart-
5 ment's management and day-to-day operations had suffered and
6 was suffering because of preoccupation with Watergate.

7 The department had also experienced a severe de-
8 cline in prestige and public trust and had acquired a taint
9 of political partisanship. To address first the management
10 needs, I grouped the department's 27
11 organizations in the department -- into the civil and the
12 criminal sides and set up a manager over each to report to
13 me.

14 The Deputy Attorney General, who previously managed
15 all of the department's business under the Attorney General,
16 now manages the criminal side and is the number two person
17 in the department. A new Presidential appointee, the Associate
18 Attorney General, manages the civil side. This division of
19 responsibility is working smoothly and has increased greatly
20 to the efficiency of the department.

21 Then, despite Attorney General Levi's fine unpolitical
22 stewardship, there remained in Washington in January of 1977
23 an abiding suspicion that every major department decision was

1 influenced if not motivated by partisan political consider-
2 ations. The leakers in the department and others outside
3 the department exacerbated this syndrome. Let me cite an
4 example.

5 As soon as I arrived, I began reading stories to
6 the effect that the investigation of the South Korean's
7 influence buying on Capitol Hill would be quashed now that a
8 Democratic administration had arrived. I was astonished to
9 find that there really wasn't much of an investigation going
10 on, only a few lawyers looking into the allegations, most of
11 which were being seen in the news.

12 I created an investigative team and pushed them to
13 get to the bottom of those allegations. We did that and some
14 persons were prosecuted, some were disciplined, and many were
15 cleared. But I noticed that it took almost a year to stop
16 speculation that the investigation would be quashed on
17 political grounds.

18 The fact that the speculation did stop indicates
19 that our efforts to restore a public perception of the de-
20 partment's integrity were meeting with some success. One of
21 my first acts in that effort was a speech early last year in
22 the Great Hall at the department to the department lawyers
23 in which I urged them to act as professionals in all matters,

1 regardless of the political consequences.

2 The most important aspect of restoring public trust
3 has been to institutionalize the independence of the depart-
4 ment from the politics of government. I like to call it
5 converting the Department of Justice into a neutral zone,
6 because law will not operate except on neutral principles.
7 The American people are entitled to have the Department of
8 Justice as is a neutral zone in government where everyone,
9 regardless of their political background, ethnic background,
10 whatever, receives the same treatment.

11 This process of conversion is still going on, but
12 a couple of major steps have already been announced which
13 future Attorney Generals would have a hard time changing. I
14 have taken a hands-off attitude toward all non-Justice
15 Department related matters in the administration. Neither
16 the President nor I consider it appropriate for the Attorney
17 General to act as a political adviser to the President.

18 Further, I have moved to insulate the line
19 attorneys and litigating division chiefs and the U.S.
20 Attorneys and others at the department from political pressure.
21 I have done that by insisting that any contacts about the
22 merits of specific cases from either the White House or
23 Congress must come through my office or that of the Deputy or

1 the Associate. We are thus able to screen out and absorb the
2 pressure which is inherent in such contacts, while the
3 Assistant Attorney Generals, the U.S. Attorneys and their
4 staff lawyers can determine the merits of cases without
5 regard to political considerations.

6 To assure that this process works, the Associate,
7 the Deputy and I will reduce to writing our reasons for
8 overruling any Assistant Attorney General or U.S. Attorney
9 in any case and will announce those reasons publicly unless
10 not possible for due process or privacy reasons, and so that
11 by announcing we can be held publicly accountable. I have
12 done this once already in the Antitrust Division ruling on
13 the LTV-Lykes merger, where I overruled the department and
14 announced and gave my reasons publicly and I have been account-
15 able to the public since that time.

16 (Laughter)

17 The second item on our agenda is what we have ac-
18 complished for the system of justice. The Justice Department
19 must concern itself with more than investigation, prosecution,
20 and representation of the government in criminal and civil
21 cases. It must also exhibit a continuing concern with the
22 justice and judicial system as a whole. This attitude I
23 think is in furtherance of Canon 8 of the Canons of

1 Professional Responsibility, Canon 8, saying that a lawyer
2 should assist in improving the legal system. And then in
3 paragraph 8.1 under that Canon, we read this: "By reason
4 of education and experience, lawyers are especially qualified
5 to recognize deficiencies in the legal system and to initiate
6 corrective measures therein; thus, they should participate in
7 proposals and support legislation and programs to improve the
8 system without regard to the general interests and desires of
9 clients and former clients."

10 And then we read on in paragraph 8.4: "A lawyer
11 must identify the capacity in which he is commenting on pro-
12 posals, that is, on behalf of a client, in his personal
13 capacity, or in behalf of the public interest. When purport-
14 ing to act on behalf of the public" -- and we all must do
15 that on some occasions -- "a lawyer should espouse only that
16 which he conscientiously believes to be in the public interest."

17 I call that to your attention because I have the
18 same attitude and desire at the Department of Justice, and in
19 furtherance of that I created the Office of Improvements in
20 the Administration of Justice. I recruited Professor Dan
21 Meador, from the University of Virginia, who is a renowned
22 authority on court systems, not only our system, he lived in
23 England once for a year and wrote a book on the English system.

1 He has just gotten back from West Germany where he spent
2 several days studying the West German system. I let him re-
3 cruit about twenty people who are very bright, and that is
4 what we call our "think tank" at the department.

5 This office has and is developing a comprehensive
6 program to address the major ills besetting the justice
7 system, including the access of all Americans to justice and
8 speeding up litigation while reducing its cost. Some pro-
9 posals of that office came close to being enacted by the last
10 Congress. In a few minutes I want to tell you about our
11 legislative priorities in the new Congress.

12 One of that office's accomplishments is well-known
13 to you. In working with various organizations, including
14 the Los Angeles Bar, we were able to establish last year
15 three pilot neighborhood justice centers. I understand, you
16 visited the one here, some of you, just yesterday. People
17 can take their minor disputes to the centers and get them
18 resolved through mediation or arbitration without the need
19 to go to court and without the need of lawyers.

20 I am proud of these centers. If they are run
21 correctly, they can take a lot of pressure off our court
22 system and resolve many disputes more quickly and less ex-
23 pensively and with less acrimony and frustration than usually

1 results from litigation.

2 During the Watergate years, the Justice Department
3 suffered piecemeal erosion of its position as a litigator for
4 the government. Several agencies took advantage of the
5 department's weakened state to gain authority from the
6 Congress to conduct their own cases. This is a raging dispute
7 going on right now in Washington, one to which I am devoting
8 great effort. Such fragmentation could only lead to incon-
9 sistencies and confusion about the government's litigating
10 positions, hardly in the best interests for the government
11 or the courts.

12 I have spent a great deal of time arresting this
13 trend, but at the same time I have tried to make the depart-
14 ment's lawyers more sensitive to the concerns of our client
15 agencies. I have tried to take the position that we are
16 lawyers, we have clients, these agencies that we represent,
17 hopefully convincing the agencies that we are good lawyers,
18 that we are there to serve them and that the public interest
19 would be better served by having the litigating authority
20 vested in the Department of Justice. Of course, we have it
21 in the Supreme Court, but this problem is at the trial level
22 mainly.

23 Another major contribution to improving the justice

1 system is a method for judicial appointment we have instituted
2 in the appointments we have made to date. Although most fair
3 observers agree that over the years the system has yielded
4 basically good results, there have always been two criticisms
5 of the appointment process for federal judges.

6 First is that it has been too much subject to the
7 whim of individual Senators, and because of the historical
8 patronage arrangement by which Senators determined who the
9 President can nominate. Secondly -- and all keen observers
10 I think would know this -- there has been a general unevenness
11 in the quality as a result of this tradition.

12 At President Carter's direction, we have moved to
13 meet these criticisms by first opening up the process for
14 nominating courts of appeals judges by establishing panels in
15 each circuit, to search out and screen potential nominees
16 and submit recommendations directly to the President.

17 Recently the President issued an Executive Order
18 establishing such standards and guidelines for Senators to
19 follow in selecting their recommendations for district court
20 judgeships. These standards and guidelines are aimed at
21 opening up the process so that all qualified persons have a
22 chance to be considered.

23 Since the Attorney General traditionally advises the

1 President on judicial appointments, I work closely with
2 President Carter in these efforts. The improvements are
3 genuine and I am gratified by the cooperation that we have
4 received and which we are receiving from the Senators.

5 Another significant contribution at the department
6 is improving the justice system by the training of trial
7 lawyers. This is our answer to the Chief Justice. When I
8 arrived at the department, I learned that an Advocacy
9 Institute had been established in 1973 to train government
10 trial lawyers, but it had never increased its offerings beyond
11 the basic course or its volume much above 200 lawyers per
12 year.

13 I have taken a personal interest in the Advocacy
14 Institute, perhaps prompted by the Chief Justice's remarks,
15 and by this year we have been able just from last year, we
16 have tripled the number of lawyers who took the basic advocacy
17 course, reaching the record number of 660. Of these, 418
18 were Assistant U.S. Attorneys, and 242 were attorneys from
19 our litigating divisions.

20 In addition, the Advocacy Institute has conducted
21 16 separate advance courses to train more than a thousand
22 lawyers in the department. These specialized courses, advanced
23 courses cover such diverse federal subjects as program fraud,

1 surface mining and public corruption, as examples.

2 We have received praise for the institute's programs
3 and have therefore laid the plans for a substantial curri-
4 culum expansion of the basic trial course beginning in
5 February 1979. Our basic course at this time is only one
6 week in length. We will now expand it to two weeks in length
7 for part one, and six months later part two will be given
8 which will be another week. With a three-week course, we
9 expect to train 600 lawyers per year and the training will be
10 the equivalent of one quarter of law school.

11 The plan for the first two weeks will be lectures,
12 demonstrations, much copied after the National Institute for
13 Trial Advocacy program, except we will divide our program,
14 our lawyers, our training into civil and criminal. You either
15 go in one course or the other.

16 After you leave and have some experience, as I say,
17 within six months you will come back, you will go into part
18 two. Part two will enable you to understand better some
19 seminar training, you will also examine the special problems
20 among federal practice such as jury misconduct, voir dire,
21 unique types of cases being handled by the department such
22 as RICO racketeering cases, perhaps environmental cases, that sort of
23 thing, which is a little bit off the normal path.

1 In addition to this plan, this three-week course,
2 we plan to continue giving advance courses to our lawyers.
3 These courses will help assure that the government's lawyers
4 are as competent and as well trained as any lawyers they
5 will face in the private sector, thereby guaranteeing that
6 the public interest will be fairly and firmly represented.

7 I might add that I think this program is in the
8 public interest. The cost will not be substantial, and we
9 will be able to get instructors at very little cost. But due
10 to the heavy turnover of lawyers that we have in the Depart-
11 ment of Justice, many of these lawyers will leave after a few
12 years in the department to join the private sector and can
13 benefit from their training in the private sector, and, of
14 course, the ones who stay in the career service will also be
15 better able to serve the public.

16 A third item that I want to mention to you is our
17 work in foreign counter-intelligence and domestic security
18 investigations. We have built on the foundation left by
19 Attorney General Levi in establishing guidelines to regulate
20 the FBI's investigations in these areas.

21 In general terms, the guidelines prohibit using an
22 expansive intelligence gathering rationale to investigate
23 domestic terrorist groups which claim a political motive.

1 Instead, standard criminal law enforcement procedures are
2 being used, including a requirement that a warrant be obtained
3 from a court if electronic surveillance is to be employed.
4 The guidelines provide for safeguards to insure that Americans
5 are not being targeted for investigation on the basis of
6 legitimate activities which are protected by the First
7 Amendment.

8 In addition, a set of classified guidelines regulate
9 the FBI's counter-intelligence espionage operations. We are
10 continually revising and expanding those guidelines as we
11 gain practical experience with them.

12 As the Attorney General, I am the President's agent
13 to faithfully execute the laws, the Attorney General not being
14 mentioned in the Constitution and the President being the
15 only person that has this duty. And by his delegation I have
16 had the responsibility for making sure that the intelligence
17 community adheres to the rule of law.

18 We have learned that we can do so, while even im-
19 proving our intelligence capacity. With the President's
20 support, with excellent cooperation from the Congress, we
21 have pointed the way toward significant improvements in the
22 safeguarding of our intelligence activities. The first major
23 achievement was a Presidential Executive Order which was

1 modeled after one promulgated by President Ford and prepared
2 by Attorney General Levi. We took that same order and ex-
3 panded on it and it is the cornerstone of our efforts to
4 construct better systems for intelligence activities.

5 The other major step we have taken is to introduce
6 a bill which President Ford and the Attorney General had
7 introduced, it was not passed in the last Congress, it was
8 passed in this Congress, which is called the Foreign
9 Intelligence Surveillance Act. Under that Act, for the first
10 time now we can go to court and get a court order. There will
11 be a special federal court set up by simply calling in judges
12 designated by the Chief Justice to serve on this special court
13 of part-time assignment and we will present our petitions to
14 those judges, those special assigned judges to get court
15 orders in foreign intelligence.

16 We are running a foreign intelligence and counter-
17 intelligence system in this country since just before World
18 War II under the constitutional authority of the President.
19 There has never been any -- the courts have never been
20 brought into the process. The American public has had some
21 distrust of this system in recent years and we perceived the
22 idea that it would be better to bring the court system in
23 and we are now in the process of doing that.

1 I now want to turn to the last agenda item. In the
2 area of judicial selection to which I have already alluded,
3 we are faced with the monumental task of filling as quickly
4 as possible the 152 new federal judgeships created by the recent
5 Congress. We have already filled 62 vacancies since we have
6 been in Washington. These were normal vacancies. While
7 filling this 152, there will be some other vacancies to be
8 filled.

9 This was an awesome responsibility, one which will
10 demand and deserve a large percentage of my time for several
11 months. This is also an awesome responsibility for the FBI
12 who will be doing background checks, for the ABA committee
13 that screens federal judges, and we had a good meeting
14 recently at the Justice Department and then went over with
15 the committee and met with the President. It will also be a
16 lot of responsibility for doctors who now for the first time
17 give physical examinations to the candidates and or other
18 groups of people who want to comment on whether a person can
19 serve based on previous service, whether the person is free
20 from bias and this sort of thing.

21 It will be an open process to the extent possible.
22 Of course, we don't give out the name of persons who have
23 been selected until we get the screening by the ABA and the

1 FBI. We try not to give out those names until we actually
2 decide that the President should nominate the person, because
3 they might be turned down and it would be an embarrassment
4 oftentimes. We do under the circuit judge selection system,
5 we give out the five names, we make those public, and that
6 is good because we get comment from the public. Some of the
7 Senators are doing that. Senator Bentsen has done that in
8 Texas recently with his list.

9 This was an historic opportunity for President
10 Carter to establish firmly the tradition of open, merit-
11 oriented judicial selection which we have been building over
12 the past two years and to take great stride in making the
13 federal judiciary better reflect the diversity in the compo-
14 sition of the bar and the population as a whole.

15 The President and I are regularly conferring about
16 this effort, and I am talking to Senators and others around
17 the country on a daily basis. I have promised to the Chief
18 Justice and the Judicial Conference, and I have said publicly
19 that I expect to have 80 percent of these new judges confirmed
20 by April 1. I must say that all of the people who work with
21 me in the department are trying to get me to give up that
22 promise, but I have learned in Washington that you never get
23 anything done unless you set deadlines. So we have been

1 waiting eight years for these judges, they are badly needed,
2 and we intend to move as rapidly as we can with due regard
3 for proper checks.

4 We have great hopes that many innovations developed
5 by the Office of Improvements in the Administration of
6 Justice will be enacted into law by the next Congress. I
7 have spoken so many times, but I want to speak again on four
8 things we badly need.

9 One is to expand the power of magistrates so that
10 they can try some small cases. The other is to put in an
11 arbitration system so that we can have substantial numbers
12 of cases arbitrated. We are already doing that on an experi-
13 mental basis in the Northern District of California, the
14 Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and the District of
15 Connecticut, and it is working well. I would expect that law
16 to enable us to do that nationwide to be passed. No one
17 loses and everyone gains.

18 You have compulsory arbitration, but it is inex-
19 pensive, it is a service lawyers will render, there will be
20 free lawyers selected at random from a list of lawyers kept
21 in the courthouse, in the clerk's office. The lawyers will
22 become adjunct judges and the lawyer's office will be adjunct
23 to courtroom for this service.

1 If you are unhappy with what the arbitrators rule,
2 you can go back to court and take your rightful place on the
3 docket.

4 The third thing is that we must do something about
5 diversity jurisdiction. I tried to go along last year with
6 what I thought was the majority opinion of the American
7 lawyers and the public interest, and that was to retain the
8 diversity jurisdiction for the nonresident which was eliminated
9 for the resident. I met with much effort to the contrary by
10 the American Bar. We had a fight to the finish and I was the
11 one that was finished.

12 (Laughter)

13 But I do not intend to give up. As I said, Shep
14 and his House of Delegates, when you want to give every witness
15 a lawyer in the grand jury room, I would meet you again at
16 the Congress, so we will see how we come out on this. But we
17 have got to do something about this. It disparages the state
18 courts to give a resident of a state the option of using his
19 own courts or going over to the federal court house. The
20 state judges feel this in many places very strongly, and I
21 feel it, but we will work with you and try to do something
22 about that.

23 The last thing is -- and I don't find any opposition

1 to this, and that is that we eliminate all of the Supreme
2 Supreme Court's mandatory appellate jurisdiction, leave them
3 completely with nothing but certiorari jurisdiction except in
4 a very small range of three-judge district courts. This will
5 help the Supreme Court and they need help. They have as many
6 cases now as they can handle, and from a news story of a
7 recent opinion of last week, perhaps they are almost at the
8 breaking point. So we want to help.

9 Now, the last thing -- and I just want to touch on
10 this briefly -- we are living in a period of great
11 inflation. I think it is up to the lawyers to do something
12 about inflation. There are things we can do. Here is some-
13 thing that we are looking at right now, just one thing. There
14 are a lot of other things. There is a range of things that
15 lawyers could do.

16 I ran across this fact. I don't know where I ran
17 across it, but I saw that the malpractice premiums of
18 hospitals had gone up from \$200 million in 1974 to \$1.2
19 billion in 1977, that in 1977 it costs \$5 a day for every
20 person in America in a hospital to pay malpractice insurance
21 premiums only. It hasn't been many years ago that you could
22 stay in a hospital for \$5 a day. Now, that is rampant in-
23 flation.

1 Surely, there is some better system than what we
2 are using now. Surely there must be some way that we could
3 get some predictability where insurance actuaries could
4 better forecast the costs and reduce these premiums. I have
5 Dan Meador's group studying that right now and we will be
6 coming out with something on that. But we want the bar
7 association, local bars, state bars, American Bar to begin
8 to think about where our tort law is carrying us, not to do
9 away with the tort law, not to drastically change it but to
10 see if there aren't better ways of doing these things.

11 There is something wrong with the system, where it
12 is just out of hand, like a machine without a driver, where
13 all you do is just throw money, pay more money. Nobody is
14 studying it, so that is one thing we are studying. That may
15 be a very small thing, but it is one thing that I think we
16 can look at and that we intend to come up with something on
17 that.

18 In all of the programs I have described today, our
19 sole interest has been and is in improving the justice
20 system, in elevating the quality of justice for all Americans.
21 We want your thoughts on every aspect of our efforts. We
22 want your cooperation in working for the public interest. As
23 lawyers, we know that there is some tension always between our

1 professional duty and the interests in the lawyer-client
2 relationship, particularly the adversary aspects of it,
3 tension between the adversary role that we play and in our
4 public duty. We must take care to keep our eye firmly fixed
5 on the public duty.

6 The last thing I want to say is that I have enjoyed
7 being Attorney General now for almost two years. I come from
8 a part of the country where we have had few opportunities to
9 serve in the national government. I am glad to have a chance
10 to serve. It is great to be a southerner, it is great to be
11 from Georgia, but most of all it is great to be an American.

12 Thank you.

13 - - -