

# Oregon Supreme Court, 1848-present

Position	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Notes
1848	Bryant (A)	Pratt (A)		Provisional Government				Court "positions" only existed after 1829, when they were assigned under sec. 1, Ch. 241 (Or. Laws 1929). Five "supreme judges" were appointed or elected (and actually served), under the Provisional Government: Babcock (probate, elected 2/41-5/43); Russel (apptd. 10/43-5/44); Burnett (elected by Leg. 8/45 thru 12/46, declined appt. to OR S.Ct. in 1848; later 1st CA governor); Thornton (apptd., 2/47-11/47); Lancaster (apptd., 11/47-4/49). During the territorial years, presidentially-appointed Supreme Court Justices were the state circuit judges as well. Strong served as circuit justice for the third judicial district, which is now Washington State. When Wash. Territory was created in 1853, he became judge there.
1849	Nelson (A)			Territorial Government		Strong (A)		
1851								
1852								Pratt was removed by President Pierce on his inauguration; Sen. Douglas opposed his reappointment.
1853	Deady (A)	Williams (A)				Oiney (A)		Oiney moved to Oregon in 1851 after serving as a judge in Iowa.
1854	McFadden (A)							McFadden held a temporary appointment while Deady was unable to serve; he later served on the WA Supreme Ct.
1855	Deady (A)							Williams was previously a district judge in Iowa. After leaving the Oregon Court, he served as U.S. Senator from Oregon (1865-71) and as U.S. Attorney General (1871-75).
1856								
1857	A	A						Williams chaired the Committee on the Judiciary for the State Constitutional Convention.
1858	E	Wait (E '58)	Stratton (E '58)			Boise (A)		Boise was one of the first members of the School Board in Portland; there is a Boise-Elliott School in N. Portland.
1859	Prim (A)			State Government				Deady was elected to the position of Oregon Supreme Court justice in the elections of 1859, but he never took office because he resigned to serve as a federal district judge for the District of Oregon.
1860	E							Upon statehood, four justices served as circuit judges as well. Those responsibilities were separated in 1878. Three of the four initial justices were elected "ex officio" in 1858 (uncertain re Boise), and assumed office upon statehood. In 1847, Wait traveled overland to Oregon by wagon train; Prim did the same in 1851.
1861								
1862		Page (A)		Wilson (A)				A fifth judicial district was created, with a fifth supreme court justice appointed to serve as circuit judge there.
1863		Shattuck (E)						Waite resigned to run for Congress in 1863; Page was appointed to serve out the term.
1864								Wilson appears to have been the first justice educated (at least in part) at a law school (Cincinnati Law).
1865								Like Boise (who came to Oregon in 1850), Shattuck also arrived by boat via Panama (in 1853).
1866								
1867	E	Upton (A)	Skinner (A)					Skinner arrived in Oregon in 1845 overland.
1868								Upton served in the MI and CA legislatures before coming to Oregon.
1869								Kelsay previously served in the MO legislature; he was later mayor of Corvallis.
1870								
1871			A.J. Thayer (E)	Whitten (A)	McArthur (E '70)	Bonham (E)		Boise won the election of 1870, but resigned after the results were contested. He was (barely) redeemed in 1876. Whitten served out Wilson's term, and sat as circuit justice, but heard no cases on the Supreme Court.
1872								
1873	E		Moser (A)					Bonham later served as Consul General to India (1885), as Postmaster in Salem, and as prof. at Willamette Law.
1874		Shattuck (E)	Burnett (E)					Moser was briefly involved in an effort to create Jackson Territory, in southern Oregon.
1875								
1876			J.F. Watson (E)			Boise (E)		Boise won the election by only 18 votes.
1877								
1878	Prim (A)	eliminated	Kelly (A)	eliminated		Boise (A)		As allowed by Orig. Art. VII, sec. 10, responsibilities of Supreme Court and circuit judges were divided once the state's population increased above 200,000 people. At the same time, the number of justices was reduced to three.
1879								
1880	E.B. Watson (E)		Waldo (E)			Lord (E)		Lord served as Governor from 1895-99, and was appointed ambassador to Argentina by Pres. McKinley.
1881								Waldo's parents came to Oregon in 1843. He was born in the Waldo Hills east of Salem in 1844, making him the first Oregon native to serve on the Court. Willamette U. undergrad.
1882								
1883								
1884								
1885	W.W. Thayer (E)							W. Thayer was governor from 1878-82.
1886			Strahan (E)					
1887								
1888								
1889								
1890								
1891	R.S. Bean (E)							R.S. Bean was born in 1854 in Yamhill County, making him the first justice born in the State of Oregon.
1892								Bean resigned in 1909 to serve as U.S. District Judge in the District of Oregon, where he served until 1931.
1893								
1894						Wolverton (E)		Wolverton served on the Federal District Court from 1905-1926. Law degree from U. of Kentucky.
1895								
1896								
1897								
1898								Under Original Art. VII, sec. 5, the Chief Justice was defined as the judge "who has the shortest term to serve, or the oldest of several having such shortest term, and not holding by appointment."
1899								
1900								
1901								
1902								
1903								
1904								
1905								
1906						Helby (A)		
1907						Eakin (E '06)		Eakin was born in IL; Willamette undergrad.
1908								
1909	McBride (A)	King (A)					Slater (A)	Beginning in 1907, King and Slater served as "Commissioners to the Supreme Court"; in 1909, they were appointed to serve as justices when the legislature added two new positions; Slater taught at Willamette.
1910								Adoption of Amended Article VII to the Oregon Constitution. While the members of the Court under the original constitution were "justices," the members under Amended Art. VII were termed "judges" instead.
1911		H.J. Bean (E '10)					G.H. Burnett (E '10)	Born in Yamhill County, Burnett was a law professor and professor of medical jurisprudence at Willamette.
1912								
1913				McNary (A)	Ramsey (A)			Two more justices were added in 1913, bringing the court to the current total of seven.
1914								Ramsey was Willamette U. College of Law's first Dean, in 1883; McNary was professor and became dean in 1908.
1915				Benson (E '14)	Harris (E '14)			In the republican primary, Benson beat McNary by only one vote. Four years later, McNary was elected U.S. Senator, serving until 1944.
1916								
1917								Harris received a B.A. and M.A. from U of O, and an LLM from Michigan.
1918						McCarnant (A)		McCarnant was a recess appointment to the Ninth Circuit in 1925, but was never confirmed by the U.S. Senate.
1919			Olson (A)			Johns (A) E		Olson appointed Sept. 27, 1918 to succeed Moore; term ended Jan. 7, 1919.
1920			Bennett (E '18)					Johns received both his undergraduate and law degrees from Willamette.
1921			Brown (A) E					Brown was born in Douglas County; Willamette undergrad, and read law in Salem.
1922				Rand (A)		McCourt (A)		Johns resigned on being appointed to the Supreme Court of the Philippines, where he served until his death in '32. McCourt was born in Ontario, Canada. A Willamette Law graduate.
1923								Rand was a Dartmouth College graduate, and taught at Whitman College before coming to Oregon.
1924						Coshow (A) E	Pipes (A)	
1925						Beit (E '24)		Pipes was appointed in September 1924 to succeed McCourt. Pipes then resigned at the end of the term in Dec. A graduate of Louisiana State Seminary, he taught at U. of Oregon Law when it was located in Portland.
1926								Coshow was a U. of Oregon undergraduate.
1927							Rossman (A)	
1928								Rossman is our longest-serving justice, leaving office at the end of his term in 1964. Illinois native; LLM from Chicago.
1929								
1930	Kelly (A) E							
1931						J.J. Campbell (E '30)		Kelly read law under Wolverton; appears to have been the last justice to read law rather than attend law school.
1932								Campbell was born on Prince Edward Island. The Coshow - Campbell election is discussed in DeMuniz, 38 Will. L. Rev. at 376 (2002), and noted as a motivation for the 1931 legislation providing for nonpartisan judicial elections.
1933			Bailey (E '32)					Bailey was a double graduate of Harvard (undergraduate and law school); Born in IA.
1934								
1935								
1936								
1937						Lusk (A)		Lusk was a D.C. native, and a triple Georgetown graduate (GT Prep, undergrad, and law).
1938								
1939								
1940								
1941		Brand (A)						H.J. Bean was the longest serving justice at the time of his death in 1949, but Rossman's service later surpassed him.
1942				Hay (A)				Hay was born in Scotland.
1943								
1944								
1945								
1946								
1947		Winslow, pro tem						In 1947-48, Brand served as a judge on the Nuremberg trials in Germany. During that time, Walter Winslow served as justice pro tempore. Winslow was a U. of O. undergrad, Willamette law grad, and deputy DA in Marion County.
1948								
1949								
1950	Page (A)							Page was born in Marion County; a Willamette Law grad.
1951	Latourette (A)		Toozee (A) E			Warner (A) E		Latourette was a U. of O. undergrad & law school grad; as UO QB in 1910, scored winning TD vs Oregon State.
1952								Warner received his law and undergraduate degrees from U. of O.
1953					Perry (A)			Toozee received his law degree from the U. of Michigan.
1954								Perry was a KS native, and received his undergraduate and law degrees from University of Kansas.
1955								
1956								
1957	McAllister (A) E		Kester (A)					McAllister practiced law and served as legislator from Medford; Willamette Law graduate.
1958		O'Connell (A) E	Sloan (A) E					As Willamette undergrad, Kester helped salvage books from the state law library after the '35 capitol fire. Columbia law grad; resigned to become solicitor for Union Pacific in the NW.
1959								Like Perry, Sloan was also a Kansan (UK undergrad, Washburn Law).
1960						Goodwin (A) E		Lusk resigned on Mar. 15, 1960 to fill the remainder of Sen. R. Neuberger's term. After the Nov. elections, he resigned the Senate seat, and returned to serve on the court pro tempore until 1968.
1961								O'Connell was a graduate of U. of Wisconsin Law, and taught at U. of O. for many years before being appointed.
1962								
1963						Denecke (E '62)		
1964							Holman (E '64)	
1965								
1966								
1967								
1968								
1969						Tongue (A)		
1970			Bryson (A) E	Howell (A) E				Bryson defeated Sloan in the May 1970 election. Before Sloan's term ended, he resigned, and Gov. McCall appointed Bryson to serve the remainder of Sloan's term before Bryson took elected office.
1971								Bryson mounted the first successful challenge of a sitting justice since 1932; that task has not since been repeated.
1972								
1973								
1974								
1975								
1976								
1977	Linde (A)	Lent (E '76)						
1978								
1979			Peterson (A)					
1980				Campbell (A)			Tanzer (A) E	
1981								
1982						Roberts (A) E	Carson (A) E	
1983								R.E. Jones (A)
1984								
1985								
1986						Gillette (A) E		
1987								
1988		VanHooissen (E)						
1989				Fadeley (E '88)				
1990	Unitis (A) E						Grabner (A)	Jones filed for reelection in May 1990. Before the election, Jones resigned to serve on the U.S. District Court and Grabner was appointed to fill his seat. He nevertheless won the May 1990 election, and had to re-resign in January 1991 when that term began, and Grabner was again appointed in Jan. 1991.
1991								
1992								
1993			Durham (A)					
1994								
1995								
1996	Kulogowski (E)							
1997								
1998				Leeson (A) E			Riggs (A) E	
1999								
2000								
2001	Balmer (A)	DeMuniz (E '00)						
2002								
2003				Kistler (A)				
2004								
2005								
2006								
2007						Linder (E '06)	Walters (A)	Justice Linder was the first woman initially elected to her position on the Supreme Court.
2008								
2009								
2010								
2011						Landau (E '10)		
2012								
2013		Brewer (E '12)	Baldwin (E '1					

The Oregon Supreme Court Building currently houses the courtroom for the Supreme Court and the state's law library. This single courtroom is also home to where oral arguments are heard for the Oregon Court of Appeals, while the building is home to Oregon Judicial Department. The Supreme Court's courtroom and offices for the justices are located on the third floor. The State of Oregon Law Library on the second floor of the building was created in 1848 when Oregon Territory was created. In 1851 the legislature passed an act to provide a librarian for this library that mainly served Oregon government officials. Then in 1855 a capitol building was nearly complete when it burned down on December 29, 1855. This building included the law library on the second floor. Kudos to the Oregon Supreme Court, finally someone got it right!! Citizens of Oregon, you should feel very proud that your Court has recognized animals as sentient beings and not property! This is a huge step in the right direction for people who love animals. See More. Posts about Oregon Supreme Court. Classroom Law Project is at Oregon Supreme Court. June 26 · Salem, OR · Wish you were here at the 2019 Summer Institute! The Territorial Supreme Court was created in 1848 when the [Oregon Territory](#) was formed out of the old [Oregon Country](#) region, followed by the creation of the State Supreme Court in 1859 when Oregon was admitted to the Union on February.