

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Tuyet T. Dorr
973-889-4279
ttdorr@pbnlaw.com

JUSTICE COLEMAN HONORED WITH LIBRARY RENAMING

MORRISTOWN, N.J., December 23, 2015 – The Porzio, Bromberg & Newman ("Porzio") library has been renamed the "Justice James H. Coleman, Jr. Library," in recognition of the immeasurable contributions that Justice Coleman has made to the firm, the greater community, and the legal landscape as a whole. Justice Coleman joined Porzio in 2004, where he has worked as a mediator and arbitrator while Of Counsel, and continues to dedicate his life to the causes of racial and social justice.

Born in 1933 in segregated Lawrenceville, Virginia, Justice Coleman overcame great odds to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree from Virginia State College and his Juris Doctor from Howard University School of Law. In 1978 he was appointed to the New Jersey Superior Court, Law Division and in 1981, the Appellate Division. In 1994 he was sworn in as the first African-American New Jersey Supreme Court Justice.

Justice Coleman authored numerous opinions that helped to break down the barriers of segregation. In *State of New Jersey v. Gilmore*, he authored the Appellate Division opinion, which struck down the indiscriminate exclusion of racial minorities from serving on juries. He also authored the Supreme Court decision which concluded that a special jury charge regarding the unreliability of cross-racial identification was required in cases that involved cross-racial eyewitness identification.

Justice Coleman has been recognized by *Best Lawyers in America* for Appellate Practice, Arbitration and Mediation since 2011, and was named the Newark *Best Lawyers* "Arbitration Lawyer of the Year" in 2015. He is a two-time nominee to the New Jersey Hall of Fame, recipient of the Justice Thurgood Marshall Award of Excellence in 2013, and the inaugural recipient of the Governor Kean Award for Commitment to People in Poverty in 2014.

Based on the more than 2,000 opinions authored by Justice Coleman, approximately 400 of which have been published, the media has concluded that "despite his historic roles, he has no agenda but to dispense justice evenly . . . That he has been a justice for all seasons . . . heavy on substance, light on flash." His legacy also has been described as "The Great Levelor."

Justice Coleman will continue to serve the legal community as an arbitrator and mentor through his role with Porzio.

About Porzio, Bromberg & Newman, P.C.

Founded in 1962, Porzio, Bromberg & Newman, P.C. is a cutting-edge law firm representing a wide variety of industry sectors. With over 90 lawyers throughout offices in New York City, Washington, DC, Morristown and Princeton, NJ and Westborough, MA, the firm is committed to serving clients, providing high quality work and achieving results. Porzio provides a broad array of litigation, corporate, transactional and counseling services to clients ranging from Fortune 500 corporations to individuals to public entities. For additional information, please visit www.pbnlaw.com.