

University of Delaware Honorary Degree

MYRON T. STEELE
DOCTOR OF LAWS

Passionate advocate for justice, you have devoted your professional life to the law, as a litigator for 18 years and then, most significantly, as a judge for 25 years. You are currently a partner in the Corporate Group of Potter Anderson & Corroon.

You served on the Delaware Superior Court from 1988 to 1994, including four years as Resident Judge of the Superior Court in Kent County. From 1994 to 2000, you served as Vice Chancellor of the Delaware Court of Chancery. You were named to the Supreme Court of Delaware in 2000 and within a few years you were appointed Chief Justice of the Delaware Supreme Court, a capacity in which you served for nearly a decade before retiring from the position in 2013.

You have always striven to provide an environment where litigants on all sides walk out the courthouse door feeling that the fairest, best possible decision was made. You know that “justice is not just a word” and you made it your mission in your career to do your part in ensuring that the judicial system functioned properly.

Your colleague, Donald J. Wolfe, Jr., chairman of Potter Anderson & Corroon, said of you, “During his sparkling 25-year judicial career, he has served on all three of Delaware’s constitutional courts, led what most would agree is the most respected state judiciary in the country, and served as Delaware’s judicial ambassador at large, proclaiming to national and international audiences alike the advantages of Delaware law, Delaware courts and Delaware incorporation.”

Highly influential judge, as Chief Justice you presided over major corporate litigation as well as limited liability company and limited partner governance disputes. You have published more than 400 opinions resolving corporate disputes and have written frequently on issues of corporate document interpretation and corporate governance.

The Directorship magazine ranked you as one of the 100 most influential people in corporate governance in the country, and *Ethisphere* magazine named you one of the 100 most influential people in business ethics. You are past president of the Conference of Chief Justices and Chair of the National Center for State Courts Board of Directors. In 2012 you received the Judicial Achievement Award from the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform.

Scholar of law, you have taught at the Pennsylvania School of Law and the University of Virginia and Pepperdine law schools. And when the opportunity arose for you to return to academic study yourself to earn your Master of Laws degree, you decided that it would be “intellectually reinvigorating” and would reignite your interest in legal theory.

As you told delawarelitigation.com, you recognized while a justice that there was a need to increase international focus, and you took it upon yourself to build relationships with foreign judges and lawyers—relationships that were highly beneficial to the State of Delaware. You have educated people across the country and around the world about the law and acted as a legal ambassador.

As Eleanor Roosevelt said, “Justice cannot be for one side alone, but must be for both.” Myron T. Steele, you understand that the law works best when it works for everybody and throughout your career you have always made this your utmost goal.

Therefore, under the authority of the Board of Trustees of the University of Delaware, I have the pleasure and honor of conferring upon you, Myron T. Steele, the degree of Doctor of Laws and do declare you entitled to all the rights, honors, and privileges to that degree appertaining throughout the world. In testimony thereof, I am pleased to present to you this diploma.

A. Gilchrist Sparks III
May 31, 2014