

2001 DRAFTING REQUEST

Assembly Joint Resolution

Received: 11/06/2001

Received By: **dykmapj**

Wanted: **Today**

Identical to LRB:

For: **Leon Young (608) 266-3786**

By/Representing: **Riley, Neci**

This file may be shown to any legislator: **NO**

Drafter: **dykmapj**

May Contact:

Addl. Drafters:

Subject: **Memorials - life and public ser.**

Extra Copies:

Submit via email: **YES**

Requester's email: **Rep.Youngl@legis.state.wi.us**

Carbon copy (CC:) to:

Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

Topic:

Judge Stanley A. Miller

Instructions:

See Attached

Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
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FE Sent For:

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/?	dykmapj	1 11/6 JLD	15/11/6	5/11/6		fr assembly	

FE Sent For:

<END>

Relating to: the life and public service of Judge Stanley A. Miller.

WHEREAS, Judge Stanley A. Miller was born on January 13, 1947 in New York, New York and passed away on November 4, 2001, in Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, Judge Stanley A. Miller received an associate degree in corrections administration from Manhattan Community College, a bachelor's degree from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in 1968, a master's degree in social work from New York University in 1970 and a law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Judge Stanley A. Miller was in private law practice from 1974 until 1981 when he joined the Milwaukee County Institutions and Departments as Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel/Legal Counsel; and

WHEREAS, Judge Stanley A. Miller was named a Milwaukee County Court Commissioner in 1984 before being appointed to the Municipal Court in Milwaukee in 1988 by the Milwaukee Common Council and was appointed to the Milwaukee County Circuit Court by Governor Tommy Thompson in 1992 from which he retired in September; and

WHEREAS, Judge Stanley A. Miller was also very active in the community, he was a member of the NAACP and the Sherman Park Community Association and served on a number of boards including Pius XI High School, Community Brainstorming Conference and St. Thomas More Lawyer's Society; and

WHEREAS, Judge Stanley A. Miller has been a trailblazer his entire life; as a second year law student he became the first African American elected president of the Student Bar Association; he was one of the first Blacks to run for the Wisconsin Supreme Court; and mentored and encouraged other black attorneys to become members of the bench; and

WHEREAS, Judge Stanley A. Miller's unique and insightful judicial philosophy set him apart from many of his colleagues, he consistently "stressed prevention in dealing with crime and voiced his concern about the social environment that is allowing an increasing number of African American youth to become caught in the web of crime and the criminal justice system;" now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature commend the life of Stanley A. Miller as a thoughtful, compassionate jurist and mourn his passing and extend their condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint resolution to Judge Miller's wife, Barbara Holzmann, to his children, Stanley Miller II, Steven Miller, Joshua Holzmann all of Milwaukee; to his mother Wilhelmina Miller; to his sister Beverly; and to his brothers Ron Miller and Raymond Miller, all of New York City.

Original URL: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/metro/nov01/miller05110401a.asp>

Judge Miller was pioneer, role model

By **JEFF COLE** and **AMY SILVERS**
 of the Journal Sentinel staff

Last Updated: Nov. 5, 2001

Retired Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Stanley A. Miller will be remembered by friends, family and colleagues as a soft-spoken, loving man who always stood up for what he believed.

Miller, 54, of Milwaukee died early Sunday morning of congestive heart failure at St. Joseph's Hospital.

"He was a real trailblazer," Milwaukee Municipal Court Judge Louis Butler said. "But Stanley also had such a calm demeanor. I learned so much from him."

Miller inspired just about everyone who came in contact with him, said his son, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reporter Stanley Miller II.

"I was inspired by him, by the way he decided to live his life," his son said.

Judge Miller grew up in New York City, where his father drove a taxi and his mother was a part-time domestic worker.

He received an associate degree in corrections administration from Manhattan Community College, a bachelor's degree from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in 1968, a master's degree in social work from New York University in 1970 and a law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1974.

Miller was a pioneer at Madison. As a second-year law student, he became president of the Student Bar Association, the first African-American elected to that position.

In 1975, Miller made his first run for Municipal Court in Milwaukee. He lost after raising \$125 for the campaign, most of which was his own money.

In 1987 he made a run for Milwaukee County Circuit Court but was defeated by John Franke.

Miller made it to Municipal Court in 1988, through an appointment by the Milwaukee Common Council. He was appointed to Milwaukee County Circuit Court by Gov. Tommy Thompson in 1992 and was elected unopposed in 1993.

He was defeated in a 1996 bid for state Supreme Court, losing in the primary, and was unsuccessful in seeking appointment to the high court in 1998.

But in 1999, Miller was re-elected unopposed to Circuit Court, holding the seat until he retired in September for health reasons.

Mentor to others

As a judge, Miller saw the need for other black attorneys to become judges, Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Carl Ashley said. Ashley credits Miller with persuading him to become a judge.


"He was a mentor," Ashley said.

Stanley A. Miller



Stanley A. Miller, 54, of Milwaukee died early Sunday morning of congestive heart failure at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Related Coverage

 **Editorial:** A loss for all of Milwaukee

Shortly before Miller retired, he called Ashley and said he wanted his friend to continue the effort to attract more black attorneys to the bench.

In the 1990s, Miller was active in the effort to change the way Milwaukee County elects Circuit Court judges. Miller and others felt judges should be elected from defined districts because that would increase the chance of minorities being elected.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People tried to force the change through a lawsuit, which failed in federal court.

Miller was also known for his breakfast meetings at either Heinemann's Restaurant or Miss Katie's Diner and his lunch meetings at Mr. Perkins' Family Restaurant, Butler said.

It was over meals that Miller would mentor, plan strategy and meet with other community leaders, Butler said.

Social conscience

Comfortable with his social work background, Miller often stressed prevention in dealing with crime while on the bench, noting that professionals should be aware of the needs of children long before they get into serious trouble. "In case after case," he once said, "there is a pattern of truancy from school or bad conduct in school."

In 1996, Miller angered then Milwaukee Police Chief Philip Arreola and others while sentencing a man convicted of killing a Milwaukee police officer.

"At sentencing, I voiced my concern about the social environment that is allowing an increasing number of African-American youth to become caught in the web of crime and the criminal justice system," Miller wrote last year.

Miller made news in other ways.

Before he became a judge, he organized Clinical Services Inc. to coordinate social work programs and develop alternative services for those on probation.

This included setting up group homes for both adults and juveniles. Some of those homes became targets of groups that did not want those convicted of crimes living in their neighborhood.

Despite the controversies he often involved himself in, Miller always had the ability to see both sides of an issue, said Reuben Harpole, now program officer with the Helen Bader Foundation.

For a time in the early '90s, Miller chaired a group known as Community Brainstorming. The group still meets once a month to discuss community issues, discussions that can get quite heated, Harpole said. Miller could always calm the group down, he said.

Outside of his public persona, the private Miller had "a love affair with Africa," his son said. "He loved Ghana in particular. There was something about the culture."

Miller also enjoyed science fiction, including the different versions of Star Trek and the British television series "Dr. Who."

"He was a very spiritual person," said longtime friend Jeanette Mitchell, education program officer at the Helen Bader Foundation. "I don't think a lot of people knew that about him."

"He was also very bright. Whatever he chose to take on, he did well."

In addition to his wife, Barbara Holzmann, and son Stanley, Miller is survived by sons Steven Miller and Joshua Holzmann, both of Milwaukee; his mother, Wilhelmina Miller of New York City; sister Beverly and brothers Ron Miller and Raymond Miller, all of New York City.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

Appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Nov. 5, 2001.



**Judge Stanley A.
Miller**

Milwaukee County
Circuit Court, Branch 21
Milwaukee County
Courthouse
901 North Ninth Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233-1425
(414) 278-4564
Fax: (414) 223-1242

Birth Date/Place: New York, N.Y.

Education: John Jay College of Criminal Justice, B.S. (1968); New York University School of Social Work, M.S.W. (1970); UW Law School, J.D. (1974)

Career History: Circuit Court Judge, Milwaukee County (1992-present); Municipal Judge, City of Milwaukee (1988-92); Assistant Family Court Commissioner, Milwaukee County (1984-88), Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel/Legal Counsel, Milwaukee County Institutions and Departments (1981-84); private law practice (1974-81); Executive Director, Clinical Services, Inc (1975-81); Director, Frederick Douglass Center (1979-81)

Interests: Board of Directors, Pius XI High School; Board of Directors, Community Brainstorming Conference; Board of Directors, St. Thomas More Lawyer's Society; NAACP, Sherman Park Community Association and writing

DRAFT

Judge Stanley A. Miller, Milwaukee County Circuit Court Branch 21, recently announced his retirement.

A New York City native, Judge Miller is a graduate of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York University School of Social Work and University of Wisconsin Law School. He was in private law practice from 1974 until 1981 when he joined the Milwaukee County Institutions and Departments as Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel/Legal Counsel.

In 1984, Judge Miller was named a Milwaukee County Court Commissioner before becoming a Municipal Judge for the City of Milwaukee in 1988. He became a Circuit Court Judge in Milwaukee County in 1992 where he served until his retirement, most recently presiding over a probate court in the Civil Division.

"Stanley Miller has been a real asset to the Milwaukee County courts and justice system. He worked tirelessly in several different divisions," said Chief Judge Michael J. Skwierawski. "Perhaps his greatest contribution these past eight years has been his complete and thoughtful commitment to the need for diversity on the bench, in judicial elections, and in our administrative and staff appointments throughout the judicial branch. We wish him well in his retirement."

Governor McCallum will make an appointment to fill the vacancy.

DRAFT

Written upon
Judge Miller's
retirement.



Handwritten initials

2001 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

Handwritten signature

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1 Miller; to his sister, Beverly; and to his brothers, Ron Miller and Raymond Miller, all
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3 (END)