

# **Murray Drabkin Papers**

**NBA.003**

**Finding aid prepared by Jordon Steele.**

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Last updated on April 28, 2011.

University of Pennsylvania, Biddle Law Library, National Bankruptcy Archives

2006

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	University of Pennsylvania: Biddle Law Library: National Bankruptcy Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Drabkin, Murray, 1928-
<b>Title</b>	Murray Drabkin Papers
<b>Call number</b>	NBA.003
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1957-1999
<b>Extent</b>	10 linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>Murray Drabkin (1928-) was a commercial bankruptcy lawyer at Hopkins and Sutter in Washington, D.C. until 2001. He was a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference and co-authored the "Judges' bill," which, together with the "Commission bill," drafted by a federal commission to study bankruptcy laws, was the basis for the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978. The collection, 1932-1999, includes materials relating to bankruptcy reform and the jurisdiction of bankruptcy judges in the 1970s and 1980s; records and papers of the National Bankruptcy Conference, where Drabkin was an active member; material relating to two important legislative projects formed by the National Bankruptcy Conference, the Code Review Project and the Insurance Insolvency Project; correspondence related to the activities of bankruptcy committees in New York and Washington, D.C.; and published manuals, reports, and reference books.</p>

**Cite as:**

[Identification of item], in the Murray Drabkin Papers, National Bankruptcy Archives, NBA.003, Biddle Law Library, University of Pennsylvania Law School.

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## **Biography/History**

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Murray Drabkin (1928-) was a commercial bankruptcy lawyer at Hopkins and Sutter in Washington, D.C. from 1992 to 2001. He was a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, an association consisting of bankruptcy scholars and practitioners that provided continuing education courses on bankruptcy law and lobbied Congress for bankruptcy reform. In 1969, Drabkin was appointed as counsel to the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ). Together with Joe Lee, a bankruptcy judge and member of the NCBJ, Drabkin co-authored the "Judges' bill," which articulated to Congress the position of the NCBJ on proposed bankruptcy reform in 1973. Together with the "Commission bill," drafted by a federal commission to study bankruptcy laws, the Judges' bill was the basis for the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978. The Judges bill became H.R. 32 and S. 236, while the Commission bill became H.R. 31 and S. 235.

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## **Scope and Contents**

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The Murray Drabkin Papers cover the period of 1932-1999. The collection includes materials relating to bankruptcy reform and the jurisdiction of bankruptcy judges in the 1970s and 1980s; records and papers of the National Bankruptcy Conference, of which Drabkin was an active member; material relating to two important legislative projects formed by the National Bankruptcy Conference, the Code Review Project and the Insurance Insolvency Project; correspondence related to the activities of bankruptcy committees in New York and Washington, D.C.; and published manuals, reports, and reference books.

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## **Arrangement note**

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### **Arrangement**

1. Bankruptcy Reform
2. Bankruptcy Jurisdiction
3. National Bankruptcy Conference
4. Organizations
5. Publications

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## **Administrative Information**

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University of Pennsylvania, Biddle Law Library, National Bankruptcy Archives

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Finding aid prepared by Jordon Steele.

### **Access Restrictions**

The archives reserves the right to restrict access to materials of sensitive nature. Please contact the department for further information.

### **Use Restrictions**

Copyright is retained by the authors of items in these papers, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Received from Murray Drabkin in 2002.

### **Processing Information note**

Processed by Melissa Silverman Backes.  
Encoded by Jordon Steele, July 2006.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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**CORPORATE NAME(S)**

- American College of Bankruptcy
- National Bankruptcy Conference (U.S.)
- National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (U.S.)

**SUBJECT(S)**

- Bankruptcy

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**Other Finding Aids note**

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An item-level container list is available offline in spreadsheet form. Please contact the Archives for more information.

## Collection Inventory

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	Box	Folder
<b>BANKRUPTCY REFORM, 1971-1978.</b>	1	1-7

### Scope and Contents note

Section by section comparison of the "Judges" and "Commission" bankruptcy reform bills, reports, testimony, handwritten notes, various law review articles and reports, and related materials collected by Drabkin that reflect bankruptcy reform initiatives in the late 1970s.

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	Box	Folder
<b>BANKRUPTCY COURTS JURISDICTION, 1982-1984.</b>	1	8
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>	2	2-3

Correspondence and related materials regarding the Northern Pipeline reorganization case, which called into question the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy bench in the 1980s.

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### **NATIONAL BANKRUPTCY CONFERENCE, 1969-1999.**

#### Scope and Contents note

An administrative file, proceedings and other meeting materials, and files on the Code Review Project, Insurance Insolvency Project, and Larry King's revision of the Conference's Bankruptcy Binder. Drabkin is a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference.

	Box	Folder
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<b>ADMINISTRATION, 1981-1999.</b>	2	4
		Box
<b>MEETINGS, 1969-1996.</b>		3-15
	Box	Folder
<b>CODE REVIEW PROJECT, 1993-1997.</b>	16	1-4
	Box	Folder
<b>INSURANCE INSOLVENCY PROJECT, 1991-1995.</b>	16	5-6
	17	1-4
	Box	Folder
<b>BANKRUPTCY BINDER PROJECT, 1993-1999.</b>	17	5
	18	1-3

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**ORGANIZATIONS, 1972-1989.**

**Scope and Contents note**

Correspondence, notes, prepared remarks, and related material regarding organizational meetings where Drabkin was invited to speak.

	Box	Folder
American College of Bankruptcy, 1997.	11	1
Association of the Bar of the City of New York, 1979-1989.	18	4
	19	1-3
Bankruptcy Committee of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, 1982.	19	4
National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, 1972.	19	5

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**PUBLICATIONS, 1957-1994.**

	Box	Folder
<i>Bankruptcy act of 1898 Annotated</i> , 1979.	19	6
"Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Law Developments" , 1982 November 16-18.	19	7
"Frazier Lemke Act (farmer-debtor relief-§75 of ch. VIII): Agriculture Department study on impact on farmers & lenders" , 1957.	20	1
<i>Understanding the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994</i> by Michelle League Johnson, David J. Light, Esq., 1994.	20	2