

Lawrence P. King Papers

NBA.001

Finding aid prepared by Jordon Steele.

Last updated on April 28, 2011.

University of Pennsylvania, Biddle Law Library, National Bankruptcy Archives

2009

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Biddle Law Library: National Bankruptcy Archives
Creator	King, Lawrence P., 1929-2001
Title	Lawrence P. King Papers
Call number	NBA.001
Date [bulk]	1966-2001
Date [inclusive]	1952-2001
Extent	35 linear feet (about 9000 items)
General Physical Description note	Due to an ongoing rehousing project, the box and folder may require additional interpretation. Please contact the Archives for more information.
Language	English
Abstract	<p>As a teacher, scholar, lawyer, and consultant, Lawrence P. King (1929-2001) played an important role in the reform of bankruptcy law from the 1960s to his death in 2001. King taught commercial and bankruptcy law at New York University Law School. He served on a number of congressional commissions formed to analyze and reform bankruptcy law, including the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules of the Judicial Conference of the United States. He gave speeches and participated in panels regarding bankruptcy legislation for a number of seminars and educational programs. He was an active member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, an organization of lawyers, judges, and</p>

professors dedicated to bankruptcy reform. He had leadership roles in National Bankruptcy Conference committees, including the Committee on Legislation, where he was Chairman. He is well known as Editor of *Collier on Bankruptcy*, a reference series that became the leading treatise on bankruptcy law during King's 40-year tenure. The collection, 1952-2001, includes personal and professional correspondence; reports, correspondence, and memoranda relating to King's participation in the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules; congressional hearings and testimony by King and his colleagues; meeting minutes, correspondence, and committee materials from the National Bankruptcy Conference, of which King was an active member; papers relating to the New York University Advanced Workshop on Bankruptcy and Business Reorganization, which King created and taught; seminar materials from the Federal Judicial Center, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the Association of American Law Schools, and other organizations; articles written by King; teaching materials; subject files on a range of topics, including personal bankruptcy, bankruptcy reform, the Bankruptcy Code, consumer legislation, and the Marathon Pipeline bankruptcy court case; and other papers used by King in the course of his scholarship.

Cite as:

[Identification of item], in the Lawrence P. King Papers, National Bankruptcy Archives, NBA.001, Biddle Law Library, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, PA.

Biography/History

As a teacher, scholar, lawyer, and consultant, Lawrence P. King (1929-2001) played an important role in the reform of bankruptcy law from the 1960s to his death in 2001. Larry King received his LL.B. from New York University (NYU) in 1953 and his LL.M. from University of Michigan in 1957. King joined the faculty at New York University School of Law in 1959. He became the Charles Seligson Professor of Law at NYU in 1963, where he taught commercial and bankruptcy law. He was also a visiting professor at universities throughout the world, including University of California-Berkeley, University of Houston, and Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University, both located in Israel.

King served on a number of commissions formed to analyze and reform bankruptcy law. From 1968 to 1986 he was a member of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules of the Judicial Conference of the United States, serving as Reporter from 1979 to 1983. In 1972, he was recruited as a consultant to the Commission on Bankruptcy Laws of the United States, a committee formed by Congress to analyze existing bankruptcy laws and to provide Congress with advice for reform.

King gave speeches and participated in panels regarding bankruptcy legislation for a number of seminars and educational programs. He was an active member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, an organization of bankruptcy practitioners and scholars dedicated to bankruptcy education and reform. He played leadership roles in National Bankruptcy Conference committees, including the Committee on Legislation, where he was Chairman. King also served as Associate Reporter for the American Law Institute, an association of legal experts dedicated to the promotion of greater uniformity in law through the publication of its series of "Restatements". He is well known as Editor of *Collier on Bankruptcy*, a reference series that became the leading treatise on bankruptcy law during King's 40-year tenure.

King died in 2001. His career-long work as a scholar and advocate of bankruptcy reform earned him an appropriate moniker: "The King of Bankruptcy."

Scope and Contents

The Lawrence P. King Papers include materials relating to King's scholarship, teaching, writing, and professional participation from 1952 to 2001. Included are personal correspondence and professional correspondence with lawyers, judges, faculty colleagues, and fellow bankruptcy scholars; reports, correspondence, and memoranda relating to King's participation in the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy rules; reference books, articles, and other papers used by King when researching and consulting various congressional entities, including the Commission on Bankruptcy Laws of the United States; congressional hearings and testimony by King and his colleagues, including Vern Countryman, Leon Forman, and George Treister; meeting minutes, correspondence, and committee files from the National Bankruptcy Conference, of which King was an active member; programs, agenda, educational papers, workbooks, presentations, correspondence, administrative papers relating to the New York University Advanced Workshop on Bankruptcy and Business Reorganization, which King formed and taught; seminar materials from the Federal Judicial Center, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the Association of American Law Schools, and other organizations; articles written by King; materials regarding King's visiting professorships and swap lectures as faculty member at NYU; subject files on a range of topics, including personal bankruptcy, bankruptcy reform, the Bankruptcy Code, consumer legislation, and the Marathon Pipeline bankruptcy court case; and related material used by King in the course of his scholarship.

Arrangement note

Arrangement

1. Correspondence
2. Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules
3. Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and Procedure
4. Commission on Bankruptcy Laws of the United States
5. Preliminary Draft of Proposed Rules and Forms
6. Congressional Hearings and Testimony
7. National Bankruptcy Conference
8. New York University Advanced Workshop for Bankruptcy
9. Seminar and Meeting Materials
10. Writings
11. Teaching Materials
12. Subject Files
13. Personal Effects
14. Bankruptcy Education Lecture Audiotapes

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Biddle Law Library, National Bankruptcy Archives

2009

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 New York University Law School in 2002.

Processing Information note

Processed and by Jordon Steele, June 2006.

Reprocessed by Christopher Defelicianantonio, September-December 2007.

Encoded by Jordon Steele, May 2008.

Controlled Access Headings

CORPORATE NAME(S)

- Commission on the Bankruptcy Laws of the United States
- National Bankruptcy Conference (U.S.)
- National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (U.S.)

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Audiotapes
- Faculty papers
- Photographs

PERSONAL NAME(S)

- Countryman, Vern -- Correspondence
- Forman, Leon S., 1915-2006 -- Correspondence
- Treister , George M., 1923- -- Correspondence

SUBJECT(S)

- Bankruptcy

Other Finding Aids note

A container list is available offline in spreadsheet form. Contact the Archives for more information.

Collection Inventory

CORRESPONDENCE, 1965-2000.

Scope and Contents note

Letters written and received from King, including those from the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, Manfred Balz, Vern Countryman, Asa Herzog, and the American Bar Association.

	Box	Folder
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES, 1992 NOVEMBER.	1	1

PEOPLE, 1965-2000.

	Box	Folder
Balz, Manfred, 1983-1984.	1	2
Countryman, Vern: Letter to Kenneth Klee, 1979 October 18.	1	3
Gillers, Stephen: Memorandum regarding Insurance Defamation, 2000 August 16.	1	4
Houser, Barbara, 2000.	1	6
Hughes, Graham: Memorandum, "The Morality of the NYU Faculty", 1988.	1	7
Kelley, Ralph: Letter to Joseph Saniol, 1985 April.	1	8
Kozinski, Alex, 1988-1992.	1	9
Laube, William, 1965-1984.	1	10

Matsushita, Junichi, 1988.	1	11
Vaisse, Saveur, 1983.	1	12
SUBJECTS, 1983-1992.		
	Box	Folder
1984 GAP Period and Passage of BAF JA, 1984 June-July.	1	13
American Bankruptcy Law Journal, 1995-1996.	1	14
American Bar Foundation, undated.	1	15
Complaint Filed by Bankruptcy Judges, 1984 July.	1	16
Fabio Morelli's Visitation, 1992.	1	17
Title 28 U.S.C. S. 569, 1984 May.	1	18
Vern Countryman Consumer Law Award, National Consumer Law Center, 1990.	1	19
Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1983.	1	20

	Box	Folder
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BANKRUPTCY RULES, 1966-1996.	1	21-23
Related Archival Materials note	2-16	1-2
	17	

For related papers, please see the "Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and Procedure" series.

Biographical/Historical note

The Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules was comprised of bankruptcy experts appointed by the Judicial Conference of the United States, formed by Congress in 1922 to create policy relating to federal courts administration. The Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules was asked to study bankruptcy law and to advise the Judicial Conference on judicial aspects of the bankruptcy code, including the appointment of judgeships. The committee's work in the 1970s contributed to the overhaul of United States bankruptcy laws and the creation of the Bankruptcy Code in 1978. King became a member in 1968, served as Reporter from 1979-1983, and continued to participate into the 1990s.

Scope and Contents note

Letters, memoranda, drafts, reports, and reference material related to King's research and activity as a member of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules.

COMMITTEE ON BANKRUPTCY RULES AND PROCEDURE, 1964-1975.

Scope and Contents note

Letters, memoranda, drafts, reports, reference material, and related material regarding the activities of the Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and Procedure, which assumed the responsibilities of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules when that committee was disbanded from 1976 to 1979.

Related Archival Materials note

For related materials, please see the "Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules" series.

Box	Folder
9a	1-14
17	3-5
18-20	

COMMISSION ON BANKRUPTCY LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1971-1973.

Box	Folder
9a	15-17
10a	1-7

Biographical/Historical note

In 1970, Congress established the Commission on Bankruptcy Laws of the United States to conduct a sweeping study of bankruptcy law. The commission was comprised of bankruptcy practitioners and scholars known as experts on bankruptcy law. In 1973, the commission submitted to Congress a report calling for bankruptcy reform. This report, known as the "Commission Bill," was the basis for H.R. 32, an early version of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978, a law that overhauled the bankruptcy system. King served as a consultant to the commission from 1972 to 1973.

Scope and Contents note

Letters, memoranda, meeting minutes, reports, and other papers relating to the King's participation as Consultant to the Commission on Bankruptcy Laws of the United States.

PRELIMINARY DRAFTS OF PROPOSED RULES AND FORMS, 1971-1975, 1982, 1985.

Box	Folder
10a	8-15

Scope and Contents note

Photocopies of preliminary drafts of bankruptcy rules and forms.

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS AND TESTIMONY, 1975-1999.

Box	Folder
10a	16
11a	1-3
12a	

Scope and Contents note

Congressional testimony by King and other people regarding bankruptcy legislation, and related papers. Witnesses include Vern Countryman, Leon Forman, H.P. Minkel, Gerald Smith, and George Treister.

NATIONAL BANKRUPTCY CONFERENCE, 1962-2001.

Scope and Contents note

Meeting minutes, committee papers, letters, reports, and other papers relating to King's activities as a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, an association of bankruptcy scholars and practitioners devoted to education and advocacy in the field of bankruptcy law.

	Box	Folder
MEETING MATERIALS, 1962, 1967-2007.	16a	1-3
	13a-15a	4-14
	12a	
	Box	Folder
CODE REVIEW PROJECT, 1973-2001.	16a	4-7

COMMITTEE FILES, 1967-1986.

	Box	Folder
Committee on Consumer Liquidation and Chapter 13, 1980-1981.	16a	8
Committee on Legislation, 1967-1971, 1976-1977.	16a	9-11
Committee on United States Trustees and Bankruptcy Administration, 1978-1986.	16a 17a	12 1
Committee on Insurance Companies, 1993 October 11.	18a	6

	Box	Folder
CORRESPONDENCE, 1968-1993.	18a	1-5
Scope and Contents note	17a	2-11

Letters from on Municipal Bankruptcy, general legislative matters, and other topics, 1968-1993.

	Box	Folder
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY ADVANCED WORKSHOP FOR BANKRUPTCY JUDGES WORKBOOKS, 1975-1999.	19a-20a	1-17
	18a	7-14
Scope and Contents note	21-24	
	25	

Programs, agenda, educational papers, workbooks, presentations, correspondence, administrative papers, and other papers relating to the NYU Advanced Workshop for Bankruptcy Judges, an annual continuing legal education program for United States bankruptcy judges that King founded and oversaw for almost 30 years.

SEMINAR AND MEETING MATERIALS, 1969-2000.

Scope and Contents note

In addition to his service to the New York University Advanced Workshop for Bankruptcy Judges, King was invited to attend and lecture at many other programs for bankruptcy scholars, lawyers, judges, and other professionals. This series contains brochures, program papers, correspondence, reference papers, lectures, speeches, and related material regarding King's participation at seminars, workshops, conferences, Continuing Legal Education seminars (CLE), and other meetings.

	Box	Folder
FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER MEETINGS, 1969-1991.	25	18-31
	26	1
	Box	Folder
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES, 1980-2000.	26	2-9
	Box	Folder
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CONFERENCES, 1984-1996.	26	10-14

OTHER MEETINGS, 1969-2000.

Other Finding Aids note

A list of these meetings is available offline in spreadsheet form. Contact the Archives for more information.

	Box	Folder
Allegheny County Bar Association Bankruptcy Section, 1997.	26	15
Association of American Law Schools Creditors' and Debtors' Rights Meeting, 1990-1992.	26	16
Association of the Bar of New York City, 1991.	26	17
Annual Workshop on Commercial and Consumer Law, Conference on International and Comparative Commercial Insolvency Law, 1993.	26	18
The Bankruptcy Battleground II: American Bankruptcy Institute, 1992.	26	19
Bankruptcy Section Seminar, Federal Bar Association of Western District of Michigan, 1993.	26	20
Bankruptcy Seminar and Retreat, Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Eastern District of Washington, 1995-2000.	26	21
Bankruptcy Update 1996: Nassau Academy of Law, 1996.	26	22
Central California Bankruptcy Association CLE, 1992-1999.	26	23
Chapter 11 Business Reorganization Seminar: American law Institute-American Bar Association Course of Study, 1989.	26	24
Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code: New York University School of Law Advanced Professional Workshop, 1991-1992.	26	25
Chapter 11 Reorganization Seminar: Florida Bar Bankruptcy Litigation Institute, 1992.	26	26

Colorado Bar Association Convention, 1988.	26	27
Commercial Law League of America Annual Convention, 1997.	26	28
Consumer Bankruptcy Seminar: National Consumer Finance Association and National Retail Merchants Association, 1981.	26	29
Continuing Legal Education Requirements, New York State Bar Association, 1998-1999.	26	30
Cleveland Bar Association Bankruptcy Institute, 1988, 1996-1997.	26	31
Draft EEC Legislation on Bankruptcy/Insolvency Procedures, 1979.	26	32
Eastern District of Pennsylvania Bankruptcy Conference, 1995, 1997.	26	33
Education Session on Consumer Bankruptcy, 1997.	26	34
Finance Forum Seminar, 1982 April.	26	35
Florida Bankruptcy Bar Association CLE, 1989.	27	1
Eastern District of Pennsylvania History Society (Faculty), 1993.	27	2
Historic Society of Eastern District of Pennsylvania Program, 1993.	27	3
International Bar Association- Vienna CLE, 1984.	27	4
International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation Tri-State Network, 1997 May-September.	27	5
Kansas City Bar Foundation CLE, 1985.	27	6
Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar, 1990-2000.	27	7-8
"Municipal Bankruptcy Law and Its Implications", Council on Municipal Performance, 1979-1980.	27	9

"The New Bankruptcy Law"- Banking, Corporation, and Business Law Section, New York State Bar Association, 1979 January.	27	10
New York Federal Bar Council- Annual Bench and Bar Conference, 1992.	27	11
New York Federal Bar Council, 1986 February-March.	27	12
Ninth Biennial Judge Joe Lee Bankruptcy Institute, University of Kentucky Office of Continuing Legal Education, 1999.	27	13
North Carolina Bar Foundation, 1983, 1999.	27	14
Northwest Bankruptcy Institute Seminars, 1996, 1999.	27	15
Oklahoma Bar Association Annual Advanced Bankruptcy Seminars, 1989-1997.	27	16
Pennsylvania Bar Institute, 1992, 1997.	27	17
"Re-thinking Executory Contracts in Bankruptcy": American Bar Association Bankruptcy and Business Law Section, 1988.	27	18
Secured Lenders and Lessors Seminar, Law and Business Inc, CLE, 1980.	27	19
South Carolina Bar Association Bankruptcy Seminars, 1980-1983.	27	20
South Carolina Law Review Symposium on Bankruptcy, 1992-1993.	27	21
Southwest Bankruptcy Law Institute: Oklahoma City University School of Law, 1994.	27	23
Special Workshop for Bankruptcy Judges, Federal Judicial Center, 1998.	27	24
Star Bar of Arizona Continuing Legal Education Seminar, CLE, 1969, 1986.	27	25
State Bar of Arkansas CLE, 1994.	27	26

State Bar of Nevada Bankruptcy Seminars, 1986-1997.	27	27
Swedish Government Commission to Study United States Insolvency and Bankruptcy Laws, 1991-1998.	27	28-29
TRW First National Credit Seminar, 1980 June 4.	28	1
United States Trustee Management Conference, 1991 November.	28	2
United States Trustee Meeting, 1996 July 24.	28	3
University of Texas School of Law- 10th/13th/16th Annual Bankruptcy Conference, 1994-1997.	28	4
Vanderbilt Law Review Symposium on Bankruptcy, 1985 March.	28	5
Williamsburg Conference on Bankruptcy (ALI-ABA), 1988.	28	6
Wisconsin State Bar Annual Convention, 1978-1988.	28	7

WRITINGS, 1952-1996.

Other Finding Aids note

An list of these writings appear offline in spreadsheet form. Contact the Archives for more information.

Scope and Contents note

Chiefly articles, book reviews, and chapter entries written by King and journal issues in which King's work appeared. This series also includes correspondence between King and publishers, and annotated drafts of King's writings.

Arrangement note

Alphabetical.

	Box	Folder
"The Adverse Witness Statute & Expert Opinion", 1959.	28	8
"Bankrupt", 1978.	28	9
Chapter on Bankruptcy Law, Fundamentals of American Law, 1996.	28	10
"Contracts-Assignment-Provision Voiding Assignment of Moneys Due", 1952.	28	11
"The History and Development of the Bankruptcy Rules", 1996.	28	12
"How to Practice Under the New Bankruptcy Code", 1979.	28	13
Review of Contesting Confirmation: A Creditor's Perspective by Robert L. Ordin, 1993.	28	14
Review of Materials on Reorganization, Recapitalization, and Insolvency by Walter J. Blum and Stanley A. Kaplan (1969), 1970.	28	15
Review of Security Interests in Personal Property by Grant Gilmore (1965) and Secured Transactions Under the Uniform Commercial Code by Peter F. Coogan et al (1963), 1966.	28	16
Review of Winning On Appeal: Better Briefs and Oral Arguments by Ruggero J. Aldisert (1992), 1993.	28	17
"Special Program for Bankruptcy Judges at the New York University School of Law", 1998 September 23-25.	28	18
"The Unmaking of a Bankruptcy Court: Aftermath of Northern Pipeline v Marathon", 1984.	28	19
"Thinking about Treister" (with Bernard Shapiro), 1993-1994.	28	20

TEACHING MATERIALS, 1964-1988.

Scope and Contents note

Letters, syllabi, examinations, and other papers relating to King's visiting professorships, swap lectures, and classes.

Arrangement note

Alphabetical.

	Box	Folder
New York University Foreign Law Institute, 1996-1998.	28	21
Swap Lectures with Edward Altman, 1996.	28	22
Visiting Frankel Professor of Law, University of Houston School of Law, 1971.	28	23
Visiting Professor of Law, University of California-Berkeley, 1964 Spring.	28	24

TEACHING, PUBLISHING AND SEMINAR FILES (ELECTRONIC), UNDATED. 215 ITEMS.

Existence and Location of Originals note

These are electronic files that are stored on the Archives' internal drives. Please contact the Archives to request access to these materials.

Scope and Contents note

Digital copies of materials created by King as a faculty member at New York University Law School.

SUBJECT FILES, 1967-2000.

Arrangement note

Alphabetical. King's original file titles have largely been retained.

Scope and Contents note

Reference material, news clippings, letters, memoranda, and other papers that King arranged by subject matter.

	Box	Folder
1978 Bankruptcy Code, 1977-1979, 1984, 1999.	28	25-27
Asa Herzog Memorial, 1996.	28	28
Bankruptcy Forms, 1986-1987, 1991.	28	29-31
Bankruptcy Legislation, 1967, 1975, 1978, 1982-1989.	29 28	29-34
Bankruptcy Legislation: New York City, 1975-1976.	30	1-7
Chapter 11, 1983-1996.	30	8
Congressional Record, 1970.	30	9-10
Constitutionality of Bankruptcy Code, 1984.	30	11
Document from Office of Assistant Legal Advisor for Private International Law, 1996.	30	11
Emergency Rule following <i>Marathon</i> , 1982-1985.	31 30	1 13
Final Report of the Attorney General on the United States Trustee System, 1984 January 3.	31	2
H.R. 833: Engrossed Senate Bill, 2000.	31	2
International Insolvency, circa 1995-1996.	31	4-10

Legislative Papers, 1973-1999.	34	1-9
	33	11-18
	32	
	31	
Personal Bankruptcy, 1981-1984.	34	10-13
"Proposed Bankruptcy Reform Acts of 1999/2000: Side-By-Side Comparison of Current House and Senate Legislation," Davis, Polk, and Wardwell, 2000 February.	34	14
Senate Hearing on Consumer Legislation, 1991.	34	15

	Box	Folder
PERSONAL EFFECTS, 1973, 1976-1999.	34	16-19

Scope and Contents note

Awards, honors, letters of Congratulation, photographs, and related material.

BANKRUPTCY EDUCATION LECTURE AUDIOTAPES, UNDATED.	Box	35
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Scope and Contents note

Educational lectures on bankruptcy law given by Frank Kennedy and George Treister.

Conditions Governing Access note

These audiotapes are currently being digitized and are inaccessible at this time.