



225th Anniversary
1789-2014



William Bondy

Born:

April 9, 1870
New York, NY

Received Commission:

March 2, 1923

Died:

March 30, 1964
New York, NY

William Bondy received all his higher education from Columbia College. He earned a B.A. in 1890, a M.A. in 1891, and a Ph.D. in 1892. He also was awarded an honorary LL.B. by Columbia in 1893. From 1893 until his appointment to the SDNY in 1923, Judge Bondy maintained a private law practice in New York City. He was active in Republican politics, and served as a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1916. He also served as a regent of the State University of New York from 1920 to 1935.

Judge Bondy often presided over admiralty cases. He also handled some important pre-trial motions in the Alger Hiss case, and in the espionage-conspiracy trial of Judith Coplon. Also of note is Judge Bondy's ruling upholding the constitutionality of the Selective Service Act of 1940. It was the first court test of the act and his ruling affirmed the power of the federal government to raise any army by conscription in an emergency even if the United States was not actually at war.

Sources:

Biographical Directory of Federal Judges, available at <http://www.fjc.gov/>

"Draft Law Constitutional, U.S. Judge Says", The Washington Post, January 24, 1941, pg. 3

"Ex-Judge William Bondy Dead; Was Chief of Southern District", New York Times, March 31, 1964, pg. 35