



225th Anniversary
1789-2014



John Francis Xavier McGohey

Born:

January 7, 1894
New York, NY

Received Commission:

March 9, 1950

Died:

July 7, 1972
New York, NY

John F.X. McGohey was a graduate of Fordham University (B.A., 1917). After United States Army service in France during 1918-1919, he attended New York University School of Law, graduating in 1923.

John McGohey had an accomplished and varied legal career before his judicial appointment. During 1923-1924, he was assistant general counsel for Hearst Publishing Company. From 1924-1932, he was counsel to the New York City Board of Transportation and, from 1933-1943, he served as an Assistant Attorney General to the State of New York.

McGohey was an Assistant U.S. Attorney, then Chief Assistant, and then the U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York. In that office, he prosecuted the highly publicized nine-month case before Judge Medina against eleven leaders of the Communist Party of the United States for conspiring to teach and advocate overthrow of the U.S. government. On the day following the trial's conclusion, McGohey received a telephone call from President Truman, who told the prosecutor that he had just appointed him to a newly-created federal judgeship.

Sources:

History of the Federal Judiciary, at www.fjc.gov.

John M'Gohey, 78, Former U.S. Judge, N.Y. TIMES, July 11, 1972, at 38.
