



225th Anniversary
1789-2014



Abraham D. Sofaer

Born:

1938

Bombay, India

Received Commission:

March 23, 1979

Service terminated on
June 9, 1985, due to
resignation.

Judge Sofaer was appointed United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York and entered on duty April 23, 1979.

He received a B.A. from Yeshiva College in 1962 and his LL.B. from New York University School of Law in 1965 where he served as editor-in-chief of the New York University Law Review. He served as a law clerk for the Honorable Skelly Wright, U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, and for the Honorable William J. Brennan, Jr. of the United States Supreme Court. From 1967 to 1969, he served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney of the Southern District of New York. Judge Sofaer has been a Professor of Law at Columbia University since 1969 and is an Adjunct Professor. From 1975 to 1976 he was a hearing officer for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Judge Sofaer is a member of the American Law Institute, the Federal Judicial Center on Experimentation in the Federal Courts, and numerous bar associations. Upon resigning the bench, Judge Sofaer became Legal Advisor to the U.S. Department of State. He was appointed the first George P. Shultz Distinguished Scholar and Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution.

Judge Sofaer presided over the trial brought by Israeli general (and future prime minister) Ariel Sharon for defamation.
