



Brad Henry
Governor

FILED

OCT 14 2010

**OKLAHOMA SECRETARY
OF STATE**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2010-45

I, Brad Henry, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, hereby direct the appropriate steps be taken to fly all American and Oklahoma flags on State property at half-staff from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 18, 2010, to honor Justice Marian P. Opala, who died on Monday, October 11, 2010, at age 89.

Justice Opala was born in Lodz, Poland, in 1921 and served with distinction in defense of his native country in World War II. He became a citizen of the United States in 1953, the same year he graduated from Oklahoma City University School of Law. He started his legal career as an assistant county attorney in Oklahoma County and in 1956 he entered private practice. From 1960 to 1965, Justice Opala served as a Supreme Court referee and then served as a staff attorney for Justice Rooney McInerney. In 1969, he served as the first administrator of the state's court system until 1977. He then served as a judge on the State Industrial Court, now know as the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Court, from 1977 to 1978.

In 1978, Governor David Boren appointed Justice Opala to the Supreme Court of Oklahoma, where he served until his death. He served as the court's Chief Justice from January 1, 1991, to December 31, 1992. In addition to his duties on the court, Justice Opala was an adjunct professor of law at the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City University, and University of Tulsa. Justice Opala was a member of the Order of the Coif and the American Law Institute. In 1993, he was appointed as a public member of the Administrative Conference of the United States.

Justice Opala made great contributions to the State of Oklahoma and dedicated his life to public service. The First Lady and I join all Oklahomans in mourning his passing.

This executive order shall be forwarded to the Director of Central Services who shall cause the provisions of this order to be implemented by all appropriate agencies of state government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 14 day of October, 2010.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Brad Henry

BRAD HENRY

ATTEST
Marian P. Opala

SECRETARY OF STATE