

State of Louisiana



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 25-051

*FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF –
JUSTICE HARRY THOMAS LEMMON*

WHEREAS, the Honorable Justice Harry Thomas Lemmon, Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of Louisiana from 1980-2001, passed away on April 18, 2025;

WHEREAS, he was born in Morgan City to Earl and Gertrude (Blum) Lemmon in 1930;

WHEREAS, he was a graduate of Morgan City High School, Southwestern Louisiana Institute, and Loyola Law School, where he graduated top of his class;

WHEREAS, he worked as chemist for four years;

WHEREAS, he honorably served our nation in the United States Army for two years;

WHEREAS, while at Loyola Law School, he met Mary Ann Vial, who would become his wife for 64 years, and they started a family together;

WHEREAS, he began his legal career at the firm of Vial, Vial, and Lemmon in Hahnville;

WHEREAS, he was elected to the Louisiana 4th Circuit Court of Appeal in 1970, and he was elected to the Louisiana Supreme Court in 1980, serving until 2001;

WHEREAS, he was committed to legal education, teaching law school pro bono at Loyola, Tulane, and Louisiana State University;

WHEREAS, his commitment to education extended to educating fellow judges, as he led the Louisiana Judicial College for over 20 years;

WHEREAS, at Loyola Law School, he chaired the Ainsworth Lecture Committee as well as on the Visiting Committee;

WHEREAS, with Professor Frank L. Maraist, he co-authored the Louisiana Civil Law Treatise on Civil Procedure;

WHEREAS, he had extensive civic involvement, including serving on the Board of Directors of Associated Catholic Charities, the American Judicature Society, and the American Inns of Court, as well as chairing the Board of Governors of the Louisiana Judicial College and the American Bar Association's Appellate Judges Education Institute, and he served on multiple Louisiana Law Institute committees;

WHEREAS, he was recognized for his extensive legal and civic contributions through many awards and recognitions including the Morgan City High School Athletic Hall of Fame, the Louisiana Bar Foundation's Distinguished Jurist Award, the Loyola Law School St. Ives Award, an honorary degree from LSU, induction into LSU Law Center's Hall of Fame, honorary membership in LSU's Order of the Coif, and an honorary Doctor of Laws from Loyola Law School;

WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Mary Ann Vial Lemmon, District Judge of the Eastern District of Louisiana. He is also survived by his six children and thirteen grandchildren: Andrew, his wife Joni, and his son Stuart; Mary Lauren and her children Patrick and Mary Elise; Roslyn and her children Mary Ann "Annie," Noah, and William; Carla, her spouse Shawn, and their children Adam, Nate and Ben; Jake and his children James, Luke, Mark, and Matthew; and Patrick and his spouse Michelle Hynes.;

WHEREAS, throughout his life, he demonstrated unconditional love, faith, and kindness, and he will be remembered for his legacy of service and dedication to the legal community, the judiciary, his friends, and his family; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana owes a debt of gratitude to his many contributions to our state.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1: As an expression of respect and to honor Justice Harry Thomas Lemmon, the flags of the United States and the State of Louisiana shall be flown at half-staff over the State Capitol and all state buildings from sunrise until sunset on May 1, 2025.

Section 2: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until sunset,
May 1, 2025.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana on this 30th day of April, 2025.

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

Nancy Landry
SECRETARY OF STATE