

Finding aid for the Rosemary Scott papers Collection 390

Finding aid prepared by Benjamin Boss

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Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

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Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Creator	Scott, Rosemary, 1922-2005
Title	Rosemary Scott papers
Date [inclusive]	1967-1976
Extent	2.5 Linear feet Six boxes
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Rosemary Scott (1922-2005) was an attorney who practiced in Grand Rapids from 1947 until 2002. She was known as the first female lawyer to open her own practice in Grand Rapids. She was appointed to the Michigan Youth Commission from 1949 to 1969, and was appointed by Governors Romney and Milliken as its Chair from 1964 to 1971. In addition, she served as a member of the Michigan Crime Commission and the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Commission. This collection contains reports, meeting minutes, and project summaries from various commissions on which she served.</p>

Biographical/Historical note

Rosemary Scott was born in Detroit in 1922. She attended Lincoln High School in Ferndale and later went on to the University of Michigan where she earned her undergraduate degree in American and English History, a secondary teacher's certificate, and a Master's degree in History. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and Mortarboard. She also received her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Michigan in 1946 in which she was the only female in her class. While in law school she taught high school classes to financially support her education. In 1946 she was appointed legal research clerk in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. The following year she opened her own practice on the seventh floor at 201 Monroe Avenue NW in downtown Grand Rapids. During the first year she practiced law during the day and worked the night shift at American Seating. She was a member of the Grand Rapids Bar Association, the State Bar of Michigan, and the American Bar Association. She became the first female chair of the Junior Bar Section of the State Bar of Michigan in 1951. She was also the chair of the State Bar's Committee on Juvenile Problems from 1966-79 and 1981-1988.

She received numerous awards and honors throughout her career. She was elected as a member of the Citizen's Advisory Council, Kent County Juvenile Court beginning in 1964. In 1970 she was awarded the Catholic Social Services Meritorious Service Award and in 1971 she received the University of Michigan Distinguished Alumni Service Award. In addition, the Grand Rapids Bar Association gave her its first Distinguished Service Award in 1989. Beginning in 1949 she was appointed by Governor Williams to the Michigan Youth Commission on which she would serve for the next two decades. She was appointed chair to the Commission by Governor Romney from 1964 to 1967 and by Governor Milliken from 1967 to 1971. She also served as a member of the Michigan Crime Commission and the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Commission. In addition, she was an active member of the Grand Rapids Urban League. In 1972 she co-founded the Grand Rapids Civic Ballet. She served as the Ballet's president from 1972 to 1974 and executive secretary from 1975 to 1988.

Scott was considered by many to be a pioneer who helped pave the way for women in the legal field in Grand Rapids. She was a recognizable figure about town who was often seen wearing her trademark hat and gloves. Scott finally retired from her practice in March 2002. She passed away on May 24, 2005.

Scope and Contents note

The collection consists of a variety of materials relating to Scott's work with various legal commissions for the State of Michigan. The materials span the years from 1967 until 1976. The agencies covered are the following: Michigan Commission on Crime, Delinquency and Criminal Administration; Office of Criminal Justice Programs, Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice; Juvenile Problems Task Force; Juvenile Service Education Study Committee; and the Office of Youth Services.

The collection is primarily made up of meeting minutes, annual reports, project summaries, and comprehensive plans for law enforcement and criminal justice. The collection is particularly strong in materials relating to youth issues and juvenile justice in the state of Michigan. The bulk of the materials are from the Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice from 1971 to 1973.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department May 2012

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Rosemary Scott, accession number 1986.286.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- office files

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

Subject(s)

- Criminal justice, Administration of -- Michigan
- Juvenile justice, Administration of -- Michigan
- Women lawyers -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids

Series I: Michigan Commission on Crime, Delinquency and Criminal Administr...

Collection Inventory**Series I: Michigan Commission on Crime, Delinquency and Criminal Administration 1967-1968**

	Box	Folder
Complete Minutes, Grant Year 1966-August 31, 1967 (5 parts)	1	1-5
1967 Digest of Recommendations	1	6
1967 Minutes	1	7
Year-end Report, August 31, 1967	1	8
1968 Minutes	1	9
1968 Minutes: June to December	1	10

Series II: Office of Criminal Justice Programs, Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice 1970-1976

	Box	Folder
1970 Comprehensive Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Plan (5 parts)	1	11-15
Office of Criminal Justice Programs, Project Summaries, Dec. 14, 1970	2	1

Series II: Office of Criminal Justice Programs, Commission on Law Enforcem...

1971 Comprehensive Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Plan	2	X
1971 Comprehensive Plan, Grant Program Information Edition	2	2
Second Annual Regional Planning Conference, Summary Report, May 1971	2	3
Project Summaries, June 10th [1971] Funding	2	4
Project Summaries, June 10th [1971] Funding, Loose leaf items	2	5
Report on Application Processing and Project Monitoring, June 1971	2	6
Project Summaries, September 15th [1971] Funding	2	7
Project Summaries, September 15th [1971] Funding, Loose leaf items	2	8
O.C.J.P. Letter to Commissioners, December 10, 1971	2	9
Project Summaries, December 16, 1971 Funding	2	10
O.C.J.P. Commission Meeting, 12-16-71	2	11
1971 Office of Criminal Justice Programs 2nd Annual Report	3	1
1972 Comprehensive Plan	3	X

Series II: Office of Criminal Justice Programs, Commission on Law Enforcem...

1972 Program Proposals	3	2
O.C.J.P. 1972 Schedule for Subgrant Approval	3	3
Materials for February 23, 1972 Commission Meeting	3	4
April 19, 1972 Funding Projects	3	5
April 19, 1972 Funding Projects – Loose leaf items	3	6
Project Summaries, August 16, 1972 Funding	3	7
Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, Meeting Minutes, December 20, 1972	3	8
December 20, 1972 Funding	3	9
December 20, 1972 Funding – Loose leaf items	3	10
Draft, 1973 O.C.J.P. Plan – R. Scott	4	1
Draft, 1973 O.C.J.P. Plan – Loose leaf items	4	2
1973 Comprehensive Plan for Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement	4	3
March 29, 1973 Funding	4	4

Series III: Juvenile Problems Task Force

Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, March 29, 1973 Agenda and Summary	4	5
O.C.J.P. - Project "Total Focus" documents, 1971-1973	4	6
O.C.J.P. Grant Application, n.d.	4	7
1976 Michigan Comprehensive Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Plan	4	X
Series III: Juvenile Problems Task Force 1970-1972		
	Box	Folder
1970 Comprehensive Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Control Plan (3 parts)	4	8-10
Juvenile Problems Task Force, Project Summaries for September 15 Commission Meeting	4	11
Juvenile Problems Task Force, Project Summaries for September 15 Commission Meeting – Loose leaf items	4	12
Juvenile Problems Task Force, April 4, 1972	4	13
Juvenile Problems Task Force, April 4, 1972 – Loose leaf items	4	14
Juvenile Problems Task Force Meeting – August 3, 1972	4	15

Series IV: Juvenile Service Education Study Committee

Juvenile Problems Task Force – December 20, 1972	4	16
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Series IV: Juvenile Service Education Study Committee 1971

	Box	Folder
The Training of Youth Service Personnel, Working Draft, Sept. 1, 1971	5	1
The Training of Youth Service Personnel – An Unmet Need in Michigan, October 1, 1971	5	X

Series V: Office of Youth Services 1971-1972

	Box	Folder
Decentralization Plan, Office of Youth Services, January 1971 (4 parts)	5	2-5
Special Analytical Study, County Juvenile Officers, Sept. 24, 1971 (3 parts)	5	6-8
A Critique of the Draft of the 1972 OCJ/JD Program Proposals	5	9
Focus on Youth, Office of Youth Services Progress Report, March 1972	5	10

Series VI: Miscellaneous 1969-1973

	Box	Folder
Planning Principles, October 15, 1969	6	1

Series VI: Miscellaneous

Kentfields Rehabilitation Program, 1970	6	2
Society of American Youth, 1970 booklet and 1971 newsletter	6	3
Detroit Police Aviation Operations Section, L.E.A.A. Presentation, March 29, 1973	6	4
Copy of book, First Offender: A Volunteer Program for Youth in Trouble with the Law by Joe Alex Morris (New York: Funk & Wagnalls, 1970), with quote by George Romney on cover	6	X
Comparative Analysis of American Bar Association, Standards for Criminal Justice, With Michigan Laws, Rules and Legal Practice, n.d.	6	X