

## **JOEL BASCOM BROWN**

Associate Justice: 1919-1921 and 1927-1953

Presiding Judge Court of Appeals: 1917-1919

Judge Court of Appeals: 1914-1917

BORN: May 18, 1872; near Somerville, Morgan County, Alabama

DIED: April 13, 1953; Montgomery, Alabama



***Portrait by IGOR PANTUHOFF,  
Russian, 1911-1972***

***Oil on Canvas, circa 1946***

***Donated to the Court by Justice  
Brown's Family in 1953***

Joel Bascom Brown was born in 1872 near Somerville, in Morgan County, Alabama, to George R. and Sarah (Morris) Brown. He attended school in Morgan County, Alabama at The Hartselle Male and Female School.

He read law in Cullman for four years, before being admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Alabama in 1892, and U. S. Court in 1894. He was an active member of his community serving as a member of the Cullman County Board of Education from 1910-1912, and the city attorney for Cullman from 1904-1914.

Brown was elected to the Court of Appeals in 1914 and served on that court until 1917, where he served as presiding judge until 1919. On November 1, 1919, he was appointed to the Supreme Court of Alabama by the Governor Thomas Kilby Brown was elected in 1927; serving until his death in 1953.

Brown first married Minnie Heidelberg in 1898. She died in 1939. He second married Rebecca Knight, daughter of Associate Justice Thomas Knight.

***Junius Moore Riggs Collection***

***Location: Law Library Reading Area North End, East Wall Heflin-Torbert Judicial Building***