

DAVIS FONVILLE STAKELY

Associate Justice: 1943-1945 and 1946-1962

BORN: January 27, 1883; Augusta, Georgia

DIED: January 13, 1964; Montgomery, Alabama



***Portrait by HERBERT R. YUTMEYER,
American, 1912-1997
Painted Photograph***

A native of Augusta, Georgia, Davis Fonville Stakely attended Mercer College in Macon, Georgia where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1903, and a law degree in 1904. Stakely taught at Howard University in Birmingham for four years. In 1908, he moved to Montgomery to begin the practice of law.

Stakely's twenty-year career on the Supreme Court of Alabama began in 1943. Governor Chauncy Sparks appointed him temporary acting associate justice to fill the seat vacated by Justice Thomas S. Lawson, who was on leave from the court for active military duty. After Lawson's return to the court after World War II, Sparks appointed Stakely in January 1946 to fill the unexpired term of the late William H. Thomas. Stakely won the election to the position that following November, and was subsequently reelected to two six-year terms.

Stakely married LeGrand Smith in 1915. They had two children: Davis F. Stakely, Jr. and Eloise Stakely Virgin.

Junius Moore Riggs Collection

Location: Law Library ,Reference Area North End, West Side, Heflin-Torbert Judicial Building