

DESTRUCTION OF SUPERIOR COURT RECORDS

4 V.S.A. § 659 provides that the Supreme Court may, by administrative order, provide for permanent preservation of all court records by microfilming; and further, that after microfilming, the Court may, by administrative order, provide for the disposition of original court records by destruction; or in cases where the original court record may have historical or intrinsic value, the original records may be transferred to an organizational or institutional facility.

The Superior Court Records Advisory Committee has recommended the **attached retention policy for the superior courts**. Prior to any records being destroyed, the records are to be offered to organizations that may wish to preserve and maintain the records. The records will first be offered to the assistant judges of the county of the record's origin. If the assistant judges do not wish to maintain the records, the records will be offered to state and local historical societies or like organizations.

It is hereby ordered that as the above-mentioned records are microfilmed by the Division of Public Records, a duplicate copy is made of the microfilm for the assistant judges of the county of the record's origin. It is further ordered the originals are to be offered first to the assistant judges of the county of the record's origin, then to state and local historical societies or like organizations; if at that point no one is interested, the originals are to be destroyed in such manner as may be deemed appropriate by the Director of the Division of Public Records.

Done in Chambers at Montpelier, Vermont this 30th day of October, 1987.

Frederic W. Allen, Chief Justice

Louis P. Peck, Associate Justice

Ernest W. Gibson III, Associate Justice

John A. Dooley, Associate Justice

Frank G. Mahady, Associate Justice