

Law Offices of Hill, Tucker, and Robinson



Oliver White Hill (Pictured Above), was born in 1907 in Richmond, Virginia. In 1933 he graduated from Howard University Law School, second in his class. From the beginning Hill was a devoted defender of civil rights winning his first case, *Alston v. School Board of Norfolk*, in 1940 which gave equal pay for black and white teachers. After he served in the Army during World War II, Mr. Hill returned to the United States and began work on desegregating schools and public places. In 1948, he became the first African-American elected to the Richmond City Council in the 20th century. It was during this time that his law firm (Law offices of Hill, Tucker, and Robinson), took Maceo Conrad Martin's case for a separate but equal State Park facility which would establish Prince Edward State Park in 1950.

In the span of 1948 to 1960 Hill led his team of lawyers on a push to eradicate segregation. During that time he and his team filed more civil rights cases in Virginia than all other southern states combined. Most notably, Mr. Hill was one of the trial lawyers for *Davis v. County School Board of Prince Edward* in 1951. This case was one of the five cases that was decided under the landmark, 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education*.

Mr. Hill continued to practice law until his retirement in 1998 at the age of 91. During that time he had received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is the highest honor for any U.S. civilian. In 2002, after the renovation of the Finance Building in Virginia's Capitol Square, the building was renamed the Oliver W. Hill, Sr. building. When the building was renamed it stood as the first and only building in Capitol Square to be named after a prominent African American, and is now the first state library. Mr. Hill passed away in 2007 at the age of 100.