FRANK S. HOGAN

"Hogan's record is without parallel in his area of public service. He exemplified the function of a prosecuting officer to strike hard blows but fair ones."

- Chief Justice Warren Burger

Born in Waterbury on January 17, 1902, Frank Smithwick Hogan succeeded Thomas E. Dewey as Manhattan District Attorney in 1941, an office to which he was re-elected for an unprecedented eight successive elections.

Earnings from after school and summer work in several local factories provided the means for a college education. After graduating from Crosby High School in 1919, he enrolled in Columbia College, obtaining his law degree in 1924.

In 1935, Hogan competed against three thousand applicants for one of twenty positions on Special Prosecutor Dewey's staff. He received one of the jobs and began his life-long career as a prosecutor in the New York criminal justice system. When Dewey ran for governor of New York in 1941, Hogan easily became the nominee for district attorney, not only of his party, the Democrats, but also of the Republican and Labor parties. He ran unopposed until 1972, when he defeated his only opponent.

Called by Dewey "the most sweetly honorable man I've ever known," and referred to by the New York newspapers as "Mr. Integrity," Hogan

dealt with murder, scandal and mobsters such as Lucky Luciano and Dutch Schultz of Murder Inc. fame. One of his biggest cases was the grand jury investigation of gangster Frank Costello in 1943. He also prosecuted the college basketball and TV quiz show scandals in the 1950s and '60s.

In 1958, Hogan ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate against Kenneth Keating. He continued as Manhattan District Attorney, resigning due to failing health following the 1973 election. He died on April 2, 1974.

Columbia University Law School established a memorial fellowship in his honor. He had previously been awarded the University's prestigious Alexander Hamilton medal for distinguished service and accomplishment, an honor he deemed the proudest moment in his life.

His biography, Mr. District Attorney, contains his epigraph: "The truth is the best swindle."

