



Stephen M. McNamee '64, '67, '69

*Has been elected to membership in the
Beta Phi Hall of Honor
Class of 2003*

Brother McNamee credits the fraternity as a positive guide in his personal and professional development and achievements. He reflects, "I have been fortunate to have had two active lives in Sigma Chi: one as an undergraduate and one as an alumnus. Each provided lifelong friends, an opportunity to meet and work with new brothers, and the enjoyment of serving our fraternity, whose values have been so important to me throughout my lifetime."

Brother McNamee's undergraduate Sigma Chi affiliation included participation in the Zeta Psi and Beta Phi chapters. He received his Bachelor of Arts and Sciences degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1964, and he received his Master of Arts degree and Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Arizona in 1967 and 1969, respectively.

Continuing activity as an alumnus, Brother McNamee served the Sigma Chi Fraternity in numerous capacities: Co-Chapter Advisor, Beta Phi Chapter (1976-1979); Sigma Chi Foundation Distinguished Faculty Associate and participant in numerous Leadership Training Workshops; President, Phoenix Alumni Association (1980-1982); and lecturer on legal liabilities of fraternity, scholarship, and membership activities. He is a Life Loyal Sigma Chi, a member of the Order of Constantine, and a Significant Sig.

After a short time in the private corporate sector, Brother McNamee joined the Office of the United States Attorney, where he served for 14 years before being appointed the United States Attorney for the District of Arizona by President Ronald Reagan in 1985. In 1990, President George Bush appointed him as a judge to the United States District Court, and he currently serves as the Chief Judge.

Brother McNamee's ongoing service to the judicial branch includes participation and leadership within the following committees: the Judicial Conference Committee on Security and Facilities (2001-present), the Ninth Circuit Committee on Space and Security (2001-present), the Ninth Circuit Committee on Racial, Religious, and Ethnic Fairness (1995-1997), the Ninth Circuit Capital Case Committee (member 1991-1996, chair 1997-present), the Ninth Circuit CJA Oversight Committee (co-chair 1999-2003), the District of Arizona Local Rules Committee (chair 1994-2001), the District of Arizona Long-Range Planning Committee (member 1990-1997, chair 1997-2000), and the State-Federal Judicial Council.

While associated with the United States Attorneys Office, he has participated in a multitude of specialized executive branch committees. He served as a member and vice chair of the Attorney General's Advisory Committee and lectured and instructed at the Attorney General's Advocacy Institute in Washington, D.D., holding the position there of Assistant Director (1979-1980). Brother McNamee also served as a member on subcommittees of office management (chair 1985-1989), civil litigation, financial litigation, and Indian affairs, as well as the Southwest Border Operation Alliance Subcommittee and the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Office Evaluations (chair). He further served the executive branch by attending binational seminars as a delegation chair in the United States and Mexico and by testifying before Congressional committees on eleven occasions on behalf of the Department of Justice. He also served as a co-chair and faculty member in continuing legal education programs for the Maricopa County Bar Association and the State Bar of Arizona.

Brother McNamee has received many professional commendations for outstanding service and leadership from the Attorney General of the United States, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the United States Attorney's Office, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Army, and a Mexican Ambassador to the United States. Outside of his profession, he has been recognized as a Distinguished Alumni of McMicken College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Cincinnati and Western Hills High School.

Brother McNamee has wholly benefited from Sigma Chi as much as he has richly contributed. He professes, "The Sigma Chi Ritual and the Norman Shield contain some of the best guideposts for governing our individual conduct. Reflecting on years past, my association with numerous Beta Phi brothers of varying generations has been invaluable in my life's journey and will always be remembered fondly. And I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge past Grand Counsels from the Beta Phi chapter who were personally influential: Marvin D. 'Swede' Johnson and S. Jack McDuff. The honor of being initiated into the Sigma Chi Fraternity has been one of the most meaningful and enduring events of my life. Through Sigma Chi, I have gained favor and distinction in ways I never imagined possible."