



**\*For Immediate Release\***

*New in November: The First Biography of Federal Judge Damon J. Keith*

DETROIT—November 4, 2013—The Honorable Damon J. Keith was appointed to the federal bench in 1967 and has served as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit since 1977, where he has been an eloquent defender of civil and constitutional rights and a vigorous enforcer of civil rights law. In *Crusader for Justice: Federal Judge Damon J. Keith*, authors Peter J. Hammer and Trevor W. Coleman present the first biography of native Detroit Judge Keith, surveying his education, important influences, major cases, and professional and personal commitments. Along the way, the authors consult a host of Keith's notable friends and colleagues, including former White House deputy counsel John Dean, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, and industrialist Edsel Ford II for this candid and comprehensive volume.

Hammer and Coleman trace Keith's early life, from his public school days in Detroit to his time serving in the segregated U.S. army and his law school years at Howard University at the dawn of the Civil Rights era. They reveal how Keith's passion for racial and social justice informed his career, as he became co-chairman of Michigan's first Civil Rights Commission and negotiated the politics of his appointment to the federal judiciary. The authors go on to detail Keith's most famous cases, including the Pontiac Busing and Hamtramck Housing cases, the 1977 Detroit Police affirmative action case, the so-called Keith Case (United States v. U.S. District Court), and the *Detroit Free Press v. Ashcroft* case in 2002.

Learn more about the book at [crusaderforjustice.com](http://crusaderforjustice.com).

**Book information:** Available Nov. 15, 2013, 6" x 9", 368 pages, 63 photos  
ISBN 978-0-8143-3845-2, \$29.95 hardback (ebook also available).

To purchase: <http://wsupress.wayne.edu/books/detail/crusader-justice>

**Book launch celebration: DETROIT LEGACIES IN BLACK AND WHITE, Monday, November 11:** A special charity book launch to benefit SAY Detroit & Damon J. Keith Center For Civil Rights! Featuring Mitch Albom and Hon. Damon J. Keith, with special appearances by Matthew Stafford, Tim Meadows, Jim Leyland, Carmen Harlan, Bernie Smilovitz, Barry Sanders, KEM, Amy Lange, Willie Horton, Devin Scillian, Carolyn Clifford and many other friends.

**6:00 p.m.** (VIP Meet and Greet Reception) **7:30 p.m.** (General Admission). More information and tickets at [olympiaentertainment.com](http://olympiaentertainment.com).

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For more information on the book or to speak to the authors, please contact Sarah Murphy, Promotions Manager, Wayne State University Press, (313) 577-6077 tel; (313) 577-6131 fax; [murphysa@wayne.edu](mailto:murphysa@wayne.edu). To learn more about the Press, please visit [wsupress.wayne.edu](http://wsupress.wayne.edu).

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