

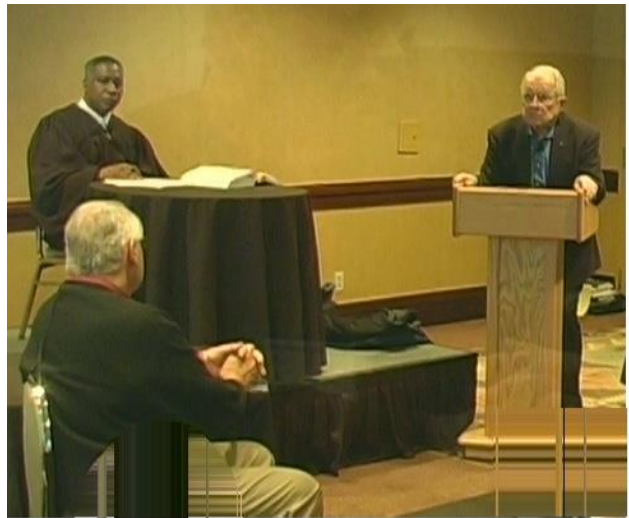
F. LEE BAILEY, FRIEND TO POLYGRAPH, DIES AT AGE 87

Prominent defense attorney F. Lee Bailey died recently at age 87. He represented many high-profile clients, including Albert DeSalvo (accused Boston Strangler); Sam Sheppard (inspiration for movie and TV show “The Fugitive”); Army Capt. Ernest Medina (court-martial proceedings regarding the Mai Lai massacre), Patricia Hearst, and O.J. Simpson.

Bailey, who was a champion of polygraph, was a frequent speaker at APA events. One of Bailey's first cases involved the polygraph. Shortly after graduating from law school, Bailey took over a high-profile Boston murder case – dubbed the "Torso Murder Case" in which auto mechanic George Edgerly was accused of dismembering his wife – after the lead attorney had a heart attack. Bailey once explained at an APA event that Edgerly had failed a lie-detector test, and someone was needed to cross-examine the polygraph expert. Bailey, who had become familiar with polygraph while working as a non-lawyer legal advocate while in the Navy, was recruited because of that experience. Bailey's meteoric career began when Edgerly was acquitted.



Polygraph continued to play a role in Bailey's cases. He attended Keeler Polygraph Institute in Chicago. Based on his association with the Keeler president Len Harrelson, Bailey was recruited by Sam Sheppard's family who wanted to secure a polygraph for Sheppard, who had been convicted of the murder of his wife and was in prison. Bailey took the case and eventually secured a mistrial following the U.S. Supreme Court's finding that the jurors in the first trial were improperly exposed to publicity regarding the case during trial. On retrial, Bailey won acquittal for Sheppard.



Bailey was a consultant to the Air Force criminal defense appeal team in *Scheffer v. United States* and recruited the APA to submit an amicus brief and assist the Air Force attorneys assigned to argue for polygraph admissibility.



Bailey publicly stated many times that while he has sometimes been let down by clients, witnesses, lawyers, judges, and others, he was never let down by the polygraph. Bailey continued to work with polygraph until the time of his death. As part of providing consulting work for a lawyer, Bailey contacted me only a few weeks before his death seeking referral of a polygraph examiner to polygraph a criminal suspect whom he was convinced was innocent.

F. Lee was a friend to polygraph, and the APA owes him much gratitude. He will be missed.

Gordon L. Vaughan, APA General Counsel