

May 1984

Justice to head law school

DALLAS — Texas Supreme Court Justice Charles W. Barrow will be resigning his position to become dean of the Baylor University School of Law, effective Oct. 1.

His appointment was presented by Baylor President Herbert H. Reynolds and approved Friday by the Baylor Board of Trustees, meeting in Dallas at the Baylor University Medical Center.

Barrow, in Waco Friday night to attend the Waco-McLennan County Bar Association banquet, said Gov. Mark White will appoint to the Supreme Court a replacement who will serve until the next general election.

Also appointed by Reynolds with the

concurrence of the Baylor trustees was an associate dean of the law school, 32-year-old David Swenson, associate professor of law. Swenson, who joined the Baylor faculty in the fall of 1982, succeeds John Stanford, who is leaving Baylor to become dean of the law school at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla.

Swenson's appointment will be effective May 14, the beginning of the summer law term.

Of Barrow's appointment, Reynolds said, "Judge Barrow is a warm human being of great integrity who will be exceedingly well received in his new role by students, faculty, alumni, members of the Texas Bar and friends of Baylor

throughout the nation. I look forward to serving with him as a colleague during the coming years."

Barrow, 62, is a 1943 Baylor law school graduate. He said he is "thrilled" and "honored" to be returning as dean to his alma mater.

"I am so very grateful to Dr. Reynolds and the trustees for giving me this challenging opportunity of serving Baylor University," he said. "I look forward to working with the law school faculty and student body and maintaining the excellent reputation the school has earned over the years."

Barrow said that it was "really a

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Charles W. Barrow

Texas high court justice named law school dean

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tough decision" to leave the Texas Supreme Court when he had 4½ years left "on a job that I like very much. But I just couldn't turn down Baylor," he said. "I owe the school so much."

In a telephone interview from his Austin office Friday, Barrow said law school search committee members approached him in February and said they were interested in a Baylor law school graduate who "understood the strengths of the school."

"They came to me largely out of the blue and I started talking to people I respected ... Frankly, I've prayed over this thing for a long time and I just thought this was a good time to work with those students," Barrow said.

About three weeks ago, Barrow said, he made a decision that if the job was offered, he would take it. He said he chose an October 1 resignation from the court because most of this year's work will be finished and it would give him time to tie up other projects.

"I've been a judge for almost 26 years and I think that the opportunity for a career change will give me a new zip," he said. "But I've enjoyed this work very much and will always be grateful for the opportunity to serve in the different capacities on the court."

He will assume the position from Angus S. McSwain Jr., who is resigning effective Sept. 30 after 19 years as dean to devote full-time attention to his "first love" — classroom teaching.

McSwain, who was named Friday by president Reynolds as a distinguished professor of law, will teach courses on Texas property law at Baylor law school.

Seven of Barrow's nearly 26 years on the bench have been on the Texas Supreme Court. He has authored more than 600 written opinions.

Born in Poteet, he was educated at public schools in Atascosa County and graduated from Baylor with a bachelor's degree, which was redesignated the juris doctor degree in 1969. He worked for 13 years as a trial attorney

in San Antonio, and from 1959 to 1962 he served on the bench of the 45th District Court.

In the spring of 1962, he was appointed to the 4th Court of Civil Appeals in San Antonio to fill the unexpired term of his father, Judge H.D. Barrow, who died that year.

Five years later, the younger Barrow was elected Chief Justice of the 4th Court of Civil Appeals, and he held that post until being appointed to the Texas Supreme Court in 1977. He was re-elected to a six-year term on the Supreme Court in 1982.

He is a former chairman of Texas Judges and the Judges Continuing Legal Education Committee, a charter member of the Judicial Qualifications Committee, co-editor of the *Benchbook for Texas Trial Judges*, project director of the Texas Judicial Coordinating Committee, and co-editor of *Texas Pattern Jury Charges*.

In 1972, Barrow was named Baylor "Lawyer of the Year" for his contributions to the legal profession, and in 1982 he received the Distinguished Alumnus award from Baylor. Others honors include the Distinguished Jurist gavel award from St. Mary's University School of Law in San Antonio, where he taught courses in procedure and appellate procedure.

A line officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean War, he was the recipient of seven battle ribbons. He is an active Methodist layman, a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason and is past president of the San Antonio Quarterback Club, a tribute to his avid feelings concerning Southwest Conference football. He played for the Baylor tennis team during his student years.

Barrow is married to the former Sugie Williams of Hindes, who also is a 1943 graduate of Baylor. They have four sons, including Charles, 37, a Chicago architect; John, 35, a 1972 Baylor law school graduate, now a lawyer in Corpus Christi; David, 30, an Arizona lawyer; and James, 24, who will graduate from Baylor law school next week.