

## BIOGRAPHY

### Honorable Francis M. Allegra

Claims Court Judge, U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Washington, DC



Judge Francis M. Allegra currently sits on the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. He was nominated by President Bill Clinton and confirmed by the Senate in 1998. He graduated from Borromeo College of Ohio, receiving a B.A. degree in 1978; he then attended Cleveland State University, receiving a J.D. degree in 1981.

Judge Allegra formerly was a Deputy Associate Attorney General at the United States Department of Justice from 1994 through 1998, where he worked with the Antitrust and Tax Divisions, as well as with the National Economic and Domestic Policy Councils at the White House. While at Justice, Judge Allegra helped to roll out several major technology projects, including the National Sex Offender Registry. In his fourteen-year career at the Department of Justice, he also served in various positions in the Tax Division, where he was Counselor to the Assistant Attorney General and an appellate litigator.

In 2008, Judge Allegra was assigned to handle a case arising from claims by a special agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (“ATF”) who was the lead undercover agent in “Operation Black Biscuit,” the first ever operation that infiltrated the Hell’s Angels motorcycle gang. The agent claimed that ATF failed to protect himself and his family from threats and violence after the conclusion of the highly successful operation. Judge Allegra denied a motion to dismiss by the government alleging that the court lacked jurisdiction and for failure to state a claim. *Dobyns v. United States*, 91 Fed. Cl. 412 (Fed. Cl. 2010); 106 Fed. Cl. 748 (Fed. Cl. 2012).

In 2008, Judge Allegra presided over *Elk v. United States*, 87 Fed. Cl. 70 (Fed. Cl. 2009). The plaintiff, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe who had been sexually assaulted by an Army officer, sought relief under Article I of the Fort Laramie Treaty of April 29, 1868, which provides that if “bad men” among the whites commit “any wrong” upon the person or property of any Sioux, the United States will reimburse the injured person for the loss sustained. Judge Allegra found that recovery under the treaty extended beyond out-of-pocket expenses to include damages for lost income as well as for pain, suffering, and mental anguish. The ruling was the first time a court had applied the treaty to cover noneconomic damages.

Judge Allegra serves on several Judicial Conference working groups and was a member of the Information Technology Committee of the United States Judicial Conference from 2004 to 2011. He is also a frequent lecturer at the Federal Judicial Center, particularly on topics involving electronic discovery and the use of technology in judging. Judge Allegra is an adjunct professor of law at the Georgetown University Law Center. In 2012, he received from Georgetown the Charles Fahy Distinguished Adjunct Professor Award. At Georgetown, Judge Allegra teaches the course “Litigation with the Federal Government.”

**Source:** *Francis M. Allegra*, U.S. COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS,  
<http://www.uscfc.uscourts.gov/francism-allegra>  
(last visited July 25, 2013).