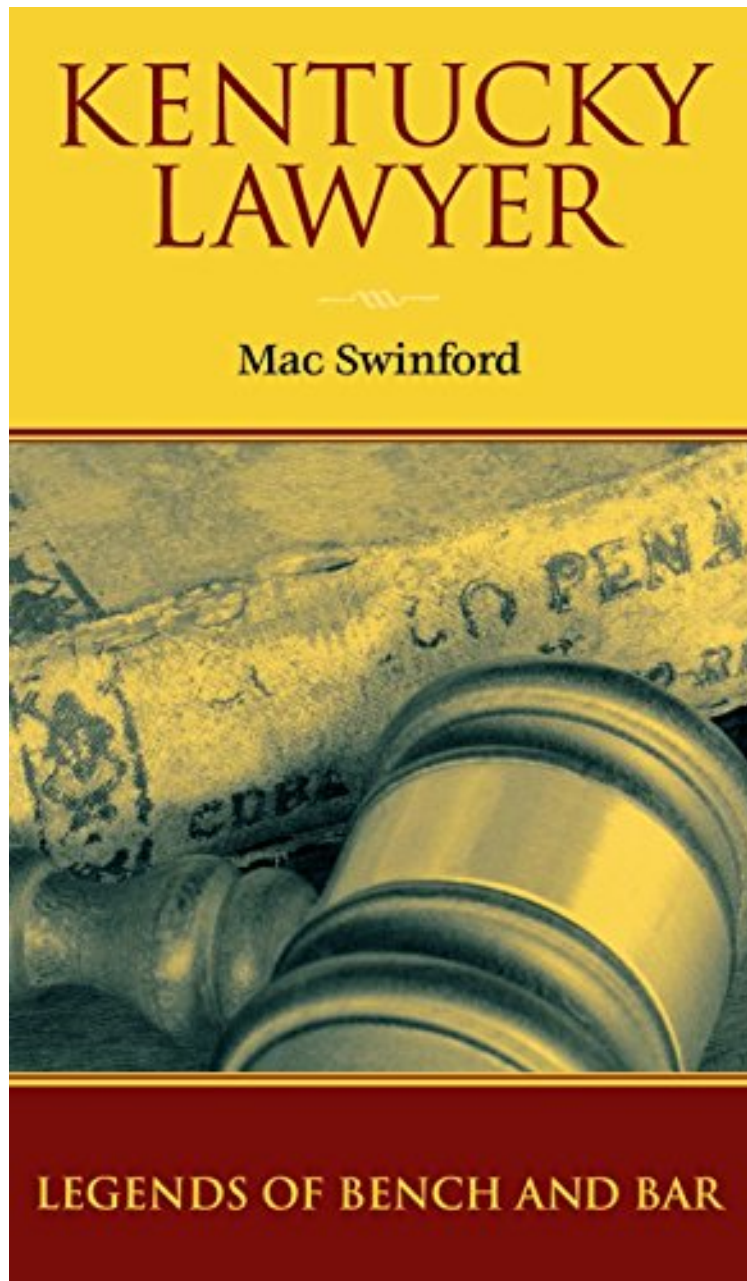


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Mac Swinford : Kentucky Lawyer before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kentucky Lawyer:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Reflections of a Ky lawyer/judge. By Phillip Moss I haven't had a chance to read this book yet. However, I grew up 2 blocks from Judge Swinford and went to school with one of his daughters. I have heard good reviews of his book and look forward to reading it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful reflections on a bygone legal era. By themcguffin As an attorney practicing in rural Kentucky I've recognized that there exists two warring ideals in the psyche of those admitted to the bar. There is the unstoppable trend of the legal profession moving towards an impersonal more business like profession which has taken hold more strongly in urban centers. Then there is a lingering tradition of personal honor, civility, showmanship, and small town politics that clings on in the rural practice of law. To understand the practice of law in Kentucky means understanding what it meant to be a lawyer in the days before Westlaw, before the Internet, before TV. Judge Swinford's short collection of anecdotes remembers a bygone era that simmers under the moral consciousness of the Kentucky Bar. The stories collected here are short, entertaining and well told. A quick read, it is packed full of humor and honest reflection. I highly recommend it.

Judge Mac Swinford was one of the longest-serving federal judges in United States history. During his lengthy tenure in the Kentucky courts, he came to know and appreciate the deep complexity of the law, understanding that it could be solid and fluid, broad and narrow, kind and harsh, changeless yet always evolving. In this service to the state and to the law, he felt that it was often his fellow lawyers who touched and educated him most. *Kentucky Lawyer* presents the most humorous, enlightening, and poignant moments of a remarkable fifty-year career. Judge Swinford offers a unique Kentucky history, recounting instances of the drama and romance of the Kentucky bar. In "A Kentucky Ghost Story," he takes readers to the banks of Crooked Creek in Harrison County, where the spirit of a wrongfully accused man still affects judicial decisions. "Cost of Love" recalls a trial in Carlisle County in which a scorned lover files suit against her ex-fiancé for breach of promise, claiming ten thousand dollars for a broken heart. Remembering some of Kentucky's most revered and respected jurists, Judge Swinford relates American culture in its most intimate and significant sense, through the acts and expressions of local leaders in the everyday affairs of life. His stories of humble commitment highlight the lives of men such as Henry Clay, Lieutenant Governor Rodes K. Myers, and Senator Joe C.S. Blackburn, who championed unpopular cases and stood on the forefront of government and community affairs. *Kentucky Lawyer* pays tribute to some of Kentucky's "truly great men," with the hope that legend will preserve them for us in memory. Now back in print, this classic book illuminates the varied work and world of the twentieth-century lawyer with elegance and humor.

"Full of folklore, rural humor, and country lawyer wisdom." —Al Smith "Anyone interested in Kentucky politics or the workings of the state's judicial system will find 'Kentucky Lawyer' an interesting and worthwhile read. It will leave you with a smile on your face and a renewed appreciation for the sometimes strange (but always intriguing) way of doing things in the bluegrass state. Best of all, it is short, surprisingly well-written (for a lawyer), and can be completed in one brief sitting." —Bowling Green Daily News "The book . . . presents readers with a unique history of the legal profession in the state of Kentucky." —Kentucky Kernel "The book, which landed in stores in February, presents readers with a unique history of the legal profession in the state of Kentucky." —UK News About the Author Mac Swinford (1899–1975) was appointed the U.S. District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky in 1937. From 1963 to 1967, he served as Chief Judge of the Eastern District of Kentucky and remained on both district courts until his death.