



Jay C. Boynton with his wife and assistant, Robin outside their Andover office, which they are in the process of closing so that they can retire and pursue other interests. Boynton has been a practicing attorney and justice for 47 years. Photo: Steve Foley

## Attorney Jay Boynton Retires After 47 Years

Steve Foley

After 47 years as a practicing attorney and District Judge, Jay Boynton has decided to retire and is in the process of closing his office in Andover. Boynton, with his wife Robin have been residents of Andover for almost many years and say that they love it here and have no plans to go anywhere else.

In a recent phone interview, Boynton told me that as a youth he was interested in environmental and agricultural issues and thought he would pursue a law career in that area. Having been raised in Laconia, NH, he did not have to go very far to find programs in his area of interest and did his undergraduate studies at UNH, including Army ROTC.

Boynton had joined the U.S. Army at a time when there was a need for attorneys, with the heating up of the Vietnam War. He was allowed to attend the University of Oregon at Eugene to pursue his law degree. The University of Oregon had a law program with a focus on the environment and agricultural issues.

Upon graduation from law school, the army had plenty of lawyers and he was able to transfer to the U.S. Coast Guard to complete his obligation. In the Coast Guard, Boynton did criminal defense work involving courts martial and the like. He also taught International Law for a while at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT

Following his military service, Boynton returned to his native New Hampshire and began practicing law in the Southern part of the state. Later he joined the practice of Arthur Nighswander in Laconia. He was appointed as a NH District Court Justice and served in the Franklin District Court for 37 years,

while still maintaining his private practice in Franklin and later in Andover. When asked if it was difficult to be a judge, Boynton replied that he enjoyed doing that work and was glad to be in a smaller community where he could get to know the families and the people in the community. He felt that he was able to make a contribution for good in the community.

From starting out with desires to be an environmental lawyer, Boynton has had a very diverse legal career, from teaching international law to being a court justice, to representing many school districts with contract negotiations, employment issues, business dealings and student conduct issues to having a general legal practise in a small New Hampshire town.

Those who have visited the Andover office know that Boynton's wife Robin has been an important part of the practice. Since her retirement from Dartmouth College in 2004, she has been doing paralegal work. She worked at a law firm in Vermont for a short time before working exclusively with her husband.

The Boyntons are looking forward to spending more time with family and enjoying their Andover community. Together they have five children and 8 grandchildren.

Although Boynton has officially retired, he and Robin are still finishing up loose ends and preparations for closing up the office which they have occupied for many years on Main Street next door to the Andover Post Office. Inquiries about files or records retained at their office may be made until February 28.



## Keeping Safe in a Vehicle During Sub Zero Weather

Press release

Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Perry Plummer urges everyone to stay safe this holiday weekend as sub-zero temperatures continue across the State.

"When we're dealing with extreme cold, minutes outside without the proper clothing can cause serious injury," Plummer said. "Dress appropriately and have an emergency kit in the car with supplies for each person who is traveling. If you need to get warm, call 2-1-1 for the most current information about the closest warming center."

Plummer offered the following tips to help residents and visitors to stay safe during the cold weather:

- Call 2-1-1 for the most current information regarding warming centers
- Dress in layers with a hat, scarf and gloves.
- Infants should be in a room in which the temperature is 61-68 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Drink plenty of fluids and warm/hot drinks.
- Eat regular balanced meals to give you energy.
- Keep active when it's cold, but not to the point where you're sweating.
- Keep dry and change out of wet clothes as soon as possible.
- Cut down on alcohol, caffeine, and nicotine, since all three cause heat loss.
- Try to keep one room in the house warm.

Ask your doctor if you are on any medications that affect your ability to maintain a steady body temperature.

Symptoms of hypothermia include:

- Decreased consciousness, sleepiness, confusion, or disorientation
- Shivering, pale or blue skin, numbness, poor coordination, slurred speech
- In severe hypothermia, shivering decreases or goes away, and the person becomes unconscious and has very shallow breaths.

If you or someone you know may be

hypothermic, call 9-1-1.

If you plan to travel over the holiday weekend, be sure to watch the weather reports and plan accordingly.

- Go to ReadyNH.gov to download and sign up for NH Alerts to get free weather and emergency warnings for your area.
- Never warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area such as a garage to avoid Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
- Make sure tires are properly inflated and in good condition
- Check windshield wiper fluid
- Ensure the vehicle is clear of all ice and snow
- Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid the gas line freezing up or running out of gas and becoming stranded.
- Bring a fully-charged cell phone and program roadside assistance numbers.
- If you become stranded in your vehicle, stay with the vehicle and tie a brightly-colored cloth to the antenna or use other distress signal.
- Run the engine and heater just long enough to remove chill to conserve gas.

Update the emergency kits in your vehicles with the items below and be sure to let someone know when and where you will be traveling and when you expect to arrive at your destination.

- Shovel
- Windshield scraper and small broom
- Flashlight
- Battery powered radio
- Extra batteries
- Water
- Snack food
- Matches
- Extra hats, socks and mittens
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Necessary medications
- Blanket(s)
- Tow chain or rope
- Road salt and sand
- Booster cables
- Emergency flares
- Fluorescent distress flag



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