

**A Guide to the  
Joseph A. Doorley, Jr. papers  
in the Providence College  
Archives and Special Collections  
DRAFT**

Processed by:  
Draft Inventory by Robin F. Rancourt, March 12, 2021

## **Biographical Note**

Joseph A. Doorley, Jr. (1930- ) served as the Mayor of Providence from 1965-1974.

Joseph A. Doorley, Jr. was born October 12, 1930 in Providence, Rhode Island. "Joe" Doorley attended LaSalle Academy in Providence, Rhode Island. After graduating from LaSalle Academy, Doorley enrolled in the University of Notre Dame, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree and graduating "cum laude" in 1953. He then went on to receive his law degree from Boston College Law School.

In 1960, interest in politics led to a seat on the Providence Democratic City Committee. By 1964, he was elected to the Providence City Council, serving from January 5, 1963 through January 5, 1965. With the rise of the powerful Providence Democratic machine, 1936-1974, a corrupt system defined as cronyism, a promise of jobs and services for votes, and with their support, Joseph A. Doorley, Jr. ran on the Democratic ticket for Mayor of Providence in 1965. He won the election and became the youngest mayor in the city's history.

During Doorley's tenure as Mayor, Providence became one of the first cities to sign up for the federal Model Cities Program, with an emphasis on urban renewal. Model Cities Program was an element of President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society and War on Poverty, a five-year long experiment developed for new antipoverty programs. The city also saw a decrease in population as residents moved to the suburbs, contributing to an economic decline. Fair housing issues, school desegregation and an era of civil unrest "marked his terms in office." Joseph A. Doorley, Jr. held the office of Mayor of Providence, until his loss to Vincent A. "Buddy" Cianci, Jr. in 1974.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection is primarily comprised of correspondence, newspaper clippings, and financial reports documenting Joseph A. Doorley's political life as Mayor of Providence, Rhode Island from 1965 through 1974. Included in the Doorley Collection is a significant amount of newspaper clippings and correspondence pertaining to the Civic Center. Documents from the Model City Program, in conjunction with the newly formed government office of Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as material on school integration all provide insight into Joseph Doorley's terms of office.

Additionally, on the national level, contents include materials, brochures, and correspondence from the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic National Convention, August 26-29, 1968 in Chicago, Illinois. There is also a limited amount of personal items of correspondence, congratulatory cards, and photographs. Doorley's papers are arranged in alphabetical subject order.

## **Provenance:**

The Joseph A. Doorley, Jr. Papers were donated to Providence College in January 1971.

**Processing Note:**

This collection was rehoused in archival boxes when initially received and is not fully processed. It is unclear from collection documentation if early archives staff reorganized the collection into the alphabetical subject lists or if that was the original order of Doorley's papers.

**DRAFT Inventory:**

This box list includes is a working draft.

<b>Box Title</b>
Accident Reports-Agriculture Yearbook-1965
Ahern Letters-1973 Annual Report
Anti-Poverty
Anti-Poverty
Anti-Poverty
Anti-Poverty
Appointments 10/11-10/30/73-Baltimor Redevelopment
Bank Account Balances-Edward P. Beard
Beautification-Biltmore Parking Garage
Bingo-Board Referendums
Boston Celtics-Brown Medical School
Brown University-Department of Building Inspection
Building Inspection-Burke
Bus Service-State Camp. 74
Corr. 1974 Primary Victory Congratulations-Caprio
Car and Truck Inventory-Chaffee
Chamber of Commerce 1968-Chapin Hospital Board of Commissioners
Chapin Hospital Board of Commissioners-Chapin 66
Robert A. Chernov-Christmas Seals
Cia-Colz
Cianci-Cure (Robert Gershkoff)
City Assessor-Resolutions and Ordinances
City Council
City Council
City Hall-1970-Civic Center-Authority Acts & Resolutions
Civic Center

Civic Center
Civic Center
Civic Center-Civil Aeronautics
Civil Aeronautics
Civil Aeronautics -Civil Defense
Civil Defense
Civil Defense-Civil Disorder
Civil Disorders-Claims
Claims and Pending Suits-Clippings 1958-1966
Clippings February 1966-1968
Clippings February 1966-1968
Clippings 1969-1970
Clippings January 1971-February 1972
Clippings March 1972-December 1972
Clippings January 1973-December 1973
Clippings January 1974-August 1974
Clippings September 1974-October 1974
Clippings October 1974-December 1974 & undated clippings
Coastal Resources Management Council-Office of Economic Opportunity
Community Action Program-Community Affairs
Community Action Program Box 2
CATV (Community Antenna Television System)-CEP (Concentrated EmploymentProgram)
Concentrated Employment Program-Constitutional Convention
Contact-Controller
Coop-C.A.M.P.S. Committee-Manpower Programs
Corliss Park-Correspondence A-Blz
Correspondence Com-Ez
Correspondence Fa-Gz
Correspondence Ha-Iz
Correspondence Ja-Lez
Correspondence Lf-Mz
Correspondence Na-Oz
Correspondence Pa-Qz
Correspondence Ra-Sez
Correspondence Sf-Tz

Correspondence Ua-Zz
Courts
Creamer, Trowbridge, Case & Basford-Crime in the United States, 1960s
Crime-Data Processing
Data Processing-Democratic Coalition
Democratic Coalition-Democratic National Committee
Democratic National Committee
Democratic National Committee
Democratic National Committee-Democratic National Convention
Democratic National Convention
Democratic National Convention
Democratic National Convention-Democratic Party
Democratic State Committee-Dexter
The Democratic Platform-Democratic State Committee 1969-1970
Diocese of Providence: St. Adalbert's-Donations
Doorley Miscellaneous & General
Doorley Awards & Appreciation
Doorley Awards & Appreciation-Biographical Information
Doorley, Biographical
Doorley Campaign
Doorley Campaign & Campaign Memorabilia
Doorley Personal
Doorley Pictures
Doorley Plans-Doorley Speeches
Doorley Speeches
Downtown Plan-Economic Development Administration
Economic Development-Economic Opportunity
Economic Opportunity
Economic Opportunity
Economic Opportunity-Economic Stabilization Program
Edgewood Construction Company-Editorials 1971
Editorials
Elderly
Elections-Election Returns 1962
Elections-Employees

Employees
Employees
Employees
Employees
Employees
Employees-Employment
Employment-Energy
Energy-Fair Welfare
FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, Sept. 1965 - 1966
Fair Housing/Federal Aid-Specifications for the Extension for the Municipal Wharf Fields Point
Fields Point-Finance
Finance
Finance
Finance
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Finance-Fire Department
Fire Department
Fire Department
Fire Department
Fire Department-Fogarty
Advisory Committee John E. Fogarty Center-Fundraisers & Promotional Campaigns
Gallogly-General Assembly 1971-G.E. Strike
General Assembly
General Assembly
General Assembly

General Assembly-Gez
Paul E. Goulding-John Smollin-Ralph Hartman
Health Centers-Health Plans
Health Services-Providence Health Centers, Inc.
Highway Bond Issue-Historical Prevention Comm. (John Corliss House)
Historical Preservation-Housing
Housing-Housing Authority
Housing Authority-Housing Board of Review
Housing Board of Review-Housing and Urban Development
Housing and Urban Development
Housing and Urban Development-Human Relations
Human Relations Latin America-Hurricane Dam
I-Intergovernmental Relations
Intergovernmental Relations-Internal Revenue Service
Invitations
Invitations
Invitations
Invitations
Invitations
Invitations
I.P.A. Program-Job Requests
Johnson, L.B. President-Justice, local Jails
Justice - Juvenile Delinquency
Kerner-LaSalle Band Letters
Law Department
Law Enforcement
Law Enforcement-Legislation
Legislation
Legislation
Legislation
Legislation
Lepore-Library, Providence Public, 1974
Licht-Licenses 1974
Licht-LNG
LNG Algonquin Gas Material-Mall, Pedestrian, 1965-1966

Mall-Public Administration Organizations Directory, 1954
Management
Management-Manpower
Manpower
Manpower
Manpower Reports-Manton Fair Welfare 1968 (and others)
Melino Case-Mental Health Center Report, 1973-4
Mental Health Center-Middletown Lodge 21 News
Lester A. Millman J.F.S.-Model Cities-1968-1969
Model Cities
Model Cities
Model Cities
Model Cities
Model Cities-Mount Hope
Municipal Chiefs Assoc.-Senator Edmund Muskie
National League of Cities (U.S. Conference of Mayors)
National League of Cities and Towns
National League of Cities and Towns
National League of Cities and Towns
National League of Cities and Towns
National League of Cities and Towns-Nc
Neighborhood Youth Corps
Neighborhood Youth Corps-News Releases
News Releases-Nixon
No Fault Insurance-Northeast Corridor
Northeast Recycling Company-Anthony C. Paolino
Parking
Parking-Parks Department
Pell, Claiborne
P.A.C.E. (People Acting Through Community Effort) 1971-Performing Arts Center
Permanent Council on Drugs-Pisaturo, Councilman Charles A.
Planning, City A-C
Planning, City D-Q
Planning, City R-Z-Planning, State A-R
Planning, State T-Z-Police Dept. 1969

Police Dept. 1970-1974
Police Dept. 1970-1974
Police Dept. 1970-1974
Police Dept. A-L
Police Dept. M-R
Police Dept. S-Z
Polid-Politics 1967 (Nat'l)
Politics 1967 (State) to Politics 1969 (State)
Politics 1970 to Politics 1971 (State)
Politics 1972 (local)-Politics 1972 (State)
Politics 1972 (State) to Politics 1974 (State)
Politics (misc.)-Politics 1968
Polls-Population, Rhode Island
Port
Port Municipal Dock-Proclamations 1964
Progress for Providence
Progress for Providence
Progress for Providence
Progress for Providence
Progress for Providence, 1968-1969
Progress for Providence
Progress for Providence: 1969-1970
Project R.I. 1973-Providence Journal (1960)
Providence Journal-Public Buildings
Dept. of Public Property-Public Welfare Building
Public Works 1965-1968
Public Works
Public Works
Public Works
Purchasing Agent-Railroad 1973
Railroad
Railway-Reappointments
Recreation
Redevelopment
Redevelopment

Redevelopment to Reynolds
Rheingold Corporation-R.I. State Advisory Committee
R.I. Hospital Trust Bldg.-R.I Municipal Chief Executives Association
Rhode Island Preservation Commission-Governor Dennis J. Roberts
Rodent Control-Save the Bay
Schools and Education: Budget
Schools and Education: Budget
Schools and Education: Budget
Schools and Education (A-Ca)
Schools and Education (C-De)
Schools and Education (De-Du)
Schools and Education (E-P)
Schools and Education (P)
Schools and Education (P-R)
Schools and Education (Sa-Sc)
Schools and Education (Sc-Teachers Salaries)
Schools and Education (Teacher's Union-Teacher's Strike)
Schools and Education (Teacher's Union-And misc.)
Schools and Education School Dept. (1963-1966)
Schools and Education: Newspapers (1963-1967)
Schools and Education: Newspapers (1968-1969)
Schools and Education: Newspapers (1970-1971)
Schools and Education: Newspapers (1971)
Schools and Education: Newspapers (1972)
Schools and Education: Newspapers (1972-1973)
Schools and Education: Newspapers (1974)
Judge Anthony Sciarretta-Sewage Treatment
Sewage-Smith Estate
Charles H. Smith Estates-Smut
Snow-Statewide Planning Program
Steamrollers-Pro Football Team-Summertime 1971 Fund
Summertime Fund-1971-Talbot House
Taxes, 1971
Taxes (thru 1972) to-State Income Tax (1971)
State Income Tax to-Annual Reports on State Taxes, 1970

Teens-Telephone Messages 5/1/70-5/29/70
Telephone Messages 1970
Telephone Messages 1971
Telephone Messages 1970-1974
Telephone Messages 1974 to Thank You Notes 1966
Thank You Notes 2/7/66-2/23/66-Frank Tibaldi + P.A.C.E.
Third Legislative Report
R.I. Tourist/Travel Association-Traffic Engineering Report-1966
Traffic Engineering- Transportation and Land Use Planning
Transportation
Transportation
Transportation Bond Issue-Turks Head Club
URI-1964-1974 United Fund
UAW Washington Report- U.S.Conference on Mayors, 1970
U.S. Conference on Mayors
U.S. Conference on Mayors
USS Providence CLG-6 70-72-Urban Coalition-1970
Urban Coalition-1971-Urban Renewal-1967
Urban Renewal
Urban Renewal
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Urban Renewal
Urban Renewal-Annual Report-1962-Urban Renewal
Valley View-1973-Providence Water Supply Board
Water Supply
Water Supply
Water Supply-to-Welfare (1969)

Welfare 1970 - Youth
Youth Power - Youth Pograms
Youth Progress Report, 1964-Zoning Study
Zoning