

Proposed Motion  
for  
Portraits Commission

That the Portraits Commission recommend to the Supreme Court of North Carolina the following action regarding the portrait of Chief Justice Thomas Ruffin:

That the Court adopt a rule limiting the size of future portraits of former chief justices and associate justices of the Court to that of the largest of such portraits in the Court's current collection, excepting the portrait of Chief Justice Ruffin;

That the Court then commission the painting of a new portrait of Chief Justice Ruffin that conforms to the newly adopted rule relating to portrait size, said portrait to be prepared from the Ruffin portrait owned by the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina; the Societies have indicated a willingness to loan their Ruffin portrait to the Court for a maximum period of five years for this purpose; the Commission recommends that the Court accept that offer;

That the new portrait, so commissioned, replace the outsized Ruffin portrait currently in the Justice Building Courtroom, and that the extant Ruffin portrait be placed in storage with the North Carolina Museum of History or the North Carolina Museum of Art, as the Court, in consultation with the appropriate officials of these state institutions, deems most appropriate or desirable;

That the placement of the new Ruffin portrait be moved one space to the left, when facing it, of the locale of the present Ruffin portrait, and the portraits of Ruffin's successor chief justices be moved one space to accommodate the new Ruffin portrait, thereby retaining the current chronological sequence of the portraits;

That a large replica of the seal of the Supreme Court be prepared and placed in the current locale of the Ruffin portrait; and

That the Court adopt a rule that henceforth the Court seal shall occupy said space, and no portrait of any former chief justice shall occupy said space to the immediate rear of the sitting chief justice's seat in the Courtroom.