



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Smithsonian Institution Archives*

## **Proceedings of the Board of Regents Meeting held on May 9, 1983**

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There have been no significant developments in the following cases, which have been reported previously to the Board.

4. Abraham v. United States (negligence action for wrongful death of volunteer) - Filed December 1980 in the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Court action stayed while Department of Labor determines if deceased was covered by the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. Awaiting results of latest Labor Department review of this matter.

5. Dance v. Ripley (racial discrimination) - Filed August 1978 in the U. S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts. Awaiting trial date.

6. Petition of the United States on behalf and for the benefit of the Smithsonian Institution, Trustee (petition for construction of provision of the J. Seward Johnson and Hunterdon Medical Center School of Health gifts) - Filed February 1977 in the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Decision issued January 31, 1980; order and judgment on the decision entered February 29, 1980. Final order and judgment entered on July 1, 1981, confirming prior findings in the February 29, 1980, order. No appeal of the July 1, 1981, decision taken. Request for the award of attorneys' fees filed by Harbor Branch (and opposed by the Department of Justice on behalf of the Institution) pending.

7. Rabenovets v. Montgomery County, Maryland, et al. (replevin action involving a 1932 commemoration medallion issued in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington that possibly belongs to the Smithsonian) - Filed August 1982 in the District Court for Montgomery County, Maryland; subsequently removed to the federal district court. Pretrial discovery proceedings under way. No trial date set as yet.

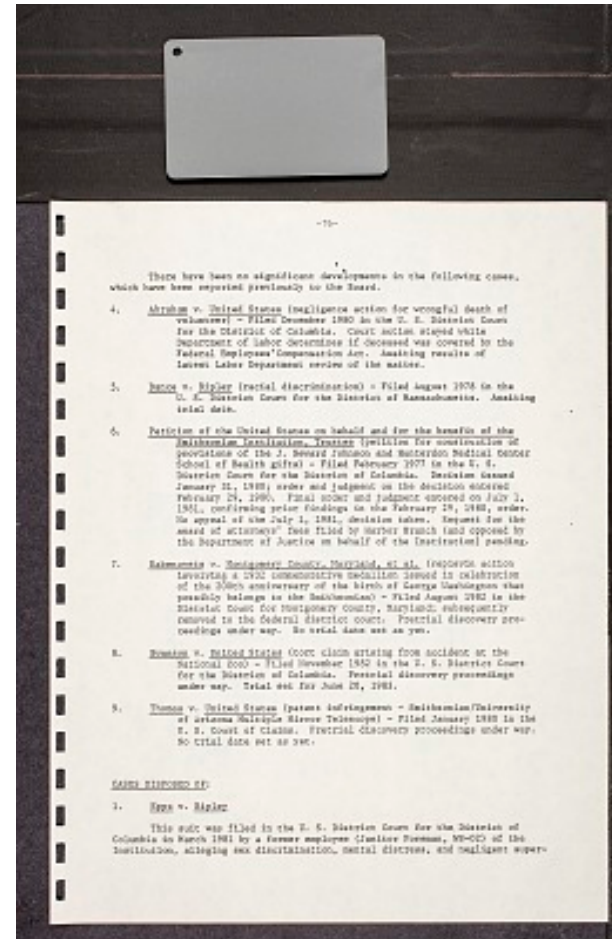
8. Swanson v. United States (tort claim arising from accident at the National Zoo) - Filed November 1982 in the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Pretrial discovery proceedings under way. Trial set for June 20, 1983.

9. Thomas v. United States (patent infringement - Smithsonian/University of Arizona Multiple Mirror Telescope) - Filed January 1980 in the U. S. Court of Claims. Pretrial discovery proceedings under way. No trial date set as yet.

CASES DISPOSED OF:

1. Epps v. Ripley

This suit was filed in the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia in March 1981 by a former employee (Janitor Foreman, WS-02) of the



Institution, alleging sex discrimination, mental distress, and negligent  
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