

Replevin:
a legal action for the return of,
or recovery of goods or chattels
wrongfully taken or detained.



January 30 (Saturday) 2:00 PM - 3:30PM
Hay Library, Brown University

Panel Discussion on the topic of replevin with former Rhode Island Supreme Court Chief Justice, **Frank Williams** and Maine State Archivist, **David Cheever**, who will talk about the issues surrounding this legal action as it relates to collecting with a particular focus on the case of the Wiscasset, Maine copy of the **Declaration of Independence**. This case of replevin which is ongoing was filed as a John Doe complaint in the Commonwealth of Virginia against the State of Maine in November, 2005

Frank Williams is former Chief Justice of the [Supreme Court of Rhode Island](#), a notable [Abraham Lincoln](#) scholar and author, and a Justice on the Military Commission Review Panel. He graduated from [Cranston East High School](#), [Boston University](#) and [Boston University School of Law](#), and he received masters in taxation from [Bryant University](#). From 1962 to 1967, he served as a [captain](#) in the [U.S. Army](#) and won a [Bronze Star](#) in [Vietnam](#). Governor [Lincoln Almond](#) appointed Williams to the Supreme Court in 1995. He was elevated to Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in 2001 and stepped down from the Supreme Court at the end of December 2008. Williams was a member of the U.S. [Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission](#) in 2009 and chaired the The Lincoln Forum. Williams has been President of The Ulysses S. Grant and Abraham Lincoln Associations.

David Cheever is the third State Archivist in Maine's history. He came to that position following an extensive career in Maine media, government, and education. A former high school English teacher, Cheever is an award-winning journalist in radio, television, and newspapers, and rejoined Maine State government after serving as editorial page editor of the Central Maine Morning Sentinel and Kennebec Journal. He is a former gubernatorial press secretary, and served as public information liaison for the Maine Department of Attorney General. Active in cultural affairs, he is a current trustee of Old Fort Western, a National Historic Landmark, and a former trustee of Maine Preservation, the non-profit historic preservation statewide assembly. He was one of the charter members and served as president of the Maine Community Cultural Alliance, a multi-disciplinary, statewide non-profit cultural advocacy organization.