Many young lawyers dream about an opportunity to directly shape the evolution of the law, but that opportunity is difficult to come by at the beginning of one’s legal career. For Judge Harvey Schneider, however, such an opportunity presented itself less than four years after he graduated from law school. In October 1967, Harvey Schneider argued before the Supreme Court as counsel for the petitioner in the seminal case of *Katz v. United States*. The rest, as they say, is history.

The two articles that follow are meant to be read in conjunction. They describe the legal environment that preceded the Supreme Court’s decision in *Katz*, the facts leading up to the case, the deliberations that occurred on the Court, the subsequent decision, and the growing impact of that decision over the years. The two articles, however, discuss these topics from different perspectives. In the first article, Peter Winn provides the reader with the context in which the issues presented in *Katz* arose and with an overview of the legal significance of the Supreme Court’s ultimate decision (especially of Justice Harlan’s influential concurring opinion). In the second article, Judge Schneider offers us a rare glimpse into what actually transpired in the days leading up to the oral argument as well as the factors that contributed to the development of Justice Harlan’s “reasonable expectation of privacy” test.

Judge Schneider’s contribution to the evolution of the law cannot be overstated. Nor can the importance of the two articles that follow. These articles bring to light, for the first time, the facts, reasons, and circumstances behind the development of the test that has come to be identified with the Supreme Court’s decision in *Katz*. Moreover, both articles demonstrate to young lawyers that the ability to fundamentally influence the evolution of the law is within their grasp.

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