



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
Murray Saltzmann Papers**

**Manuscript Collection No. 305**



## Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	Murray Saltzman Papers
<b>Dates</b>	1960-2010
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS-305
<b>Repository</b>	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Saltzman, Murray, 1929-2010
<b>Extent</b>	6 linear feet (15 Hollinger boxes)
<b>Language of the Material</b>	English

## Administrative Information

### Biographical Sketch

The son of immigrant parents from Russia and Hungary, Murray Saltzman was born in New York City and raised in Brooklyn. After graduating from high school, Saltzman entered Syracuse University with the intention of becoming a writer. While there, he took a religion course that changed the direction of his life. He dropped out of Syracuse and enrolled at the University of Cincinnati, where he earned a bachelor's degree. In 1956, he was ordained at the Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion, from which he also received a Master's degree in Hebrew Letters.

From 1956 to 1958, he served as assistant rabbi at Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun in Milwaukee, WI. He then came to Hagerstown, MD in 1958 to lead Congregation B'nai Abraham. Saltzman left Hagerstown in 1962 to become rabbi at Temple Beth-El in Chappaqua, NY, a position which he held for five years before moving on to become senior rabbi of the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. In 1975, he was awarded a Doctor of Divinity degree from the Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, IN.

During the 1960s, he marched across the South with the Rev. Martin Luther King. Due to his outspoken civil rights activism, President Gerald R. Ford appointed him to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in 1975, a position he held until 1983. Saltzman, who was the senior-ranking member of the commission, and two other members, were fired in 1983 by President Reagan after they criticized administration policies.

In 1978, he was appointed senior rabbi at the Baltimore Hebrew Congregation and led the effort that resulted in the building of the area's only parochial school run by Reform Jews. He was the driving force behind the building of the Early Childhood Center, the Myerberg Library and a Holocaust Memorial in the Congregation's cemetery.

He retired from his post as senior rabbi at the Baltimore Hebrew Congregation in 1996 and moved to Fort Myers, Florida where he was a part-time rabbi at Bat Yam Temple of the Islands Tzedakah, and continued to write widely on various issues that defined his life and work.

--Adapted from "Rabbi Murray Saltzman: A voice for social justice." Congregation B'nai Abraham, (<http://www.bnaiabraham.net/WhatsNew/Rabbi%20Murray%20Saltzman%20Remembered.htm>) and "Murray Saltzman" By Frederick N. Rasmussen. Baltimore Sun. ([http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2010-01-09/news/bal-md.ob.ci.saltzman09jan09\\_1\\_assistant-rabbi-degree-in-hebrew-letters-senior-rabbi](http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2010-01-09/news/bal-md.ob.ci.saltzman09jan09_1_assistant-rabbi-degree-in-hebrew-letters-senior-rabbi)). Accessed February 15, 2012.

### Scope and Content

This collection consists mostly of sermons, writings, and alphabetical subject files. Rabbi Saltzman's sermons and writings are primarily from his tenure at Baltimore Hebrew Congregation and later at Bat Yam Temple of the Islands (Sanibel Island, Fla.). The alphabetical subject files were compiled by Saltzman during his time on the United States Commission on Civil Rights and after his termination from the Commission. These consist primarily of correspondence, reports, and conference papers on a variety of topics related to civil rights. There are extensive files on school desegregation as well as the United States Supreme Court. Other topics in the alphabetical files include, but are not limited, to voting rights, discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin, and discrimination in the administration of justice.

### Arrangement

This collection is arranged in two (2) series: A. Sermons and Writings, 1960-2010; B. Alphabetical files, 1966-1992.

### Terms of Access

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

**Preferred Citation** Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Murray Saltzman Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-305. Murray Saltzman Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance** Received from Murray Saltzman, September 1992 and Esther Saltzman, Fort Myers, Fla., June 2010.

**Processing Information** Processed by Michelle Wirth Detroit, February 2012.

This collection was arranged and described according to minimal-processing standards. Funding, in part, for the arrangement and description of this collection was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

## Index Terms

**Subjects** Civil rights / Rabbis  
**Personal Names** Saltzman, Murray, 1929-2010  
**Corporate Names** United States Commission on Civil Rights  
**Media** Sermons

### Series A. Sermons and Writings, 1960-2010

**Extent** 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

#### Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1-3. Correspondence, 1960-2010  
Box 1. Folder 4-19. Sermons, 1970-2009  
Box 1. Folder 20-21. Creative services and meditation services, 1998-2009  
Box 2. Folder 6. Articles regarding firing from Civil Rights Commission, 1983  
Box 2. Folder 7. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration (Maryland), 1987  
Box 2. Folder 8. Newspaper articles, 1996-2009  
Box 2. Folder 9. Notes and research for sermons and articles, undated  
Box 2. Folder 10. Op-ed pieces, 1993-1996  
Box 2. Folder 1-5. Articles, 1970-1984, undated  
Box 3. Folder 5. Writings, 1988-1990  
Box 3. Folder 6. Photographs and biography, undated  
Box 3. Folder 1-2. Poems and prayers, 1983-1986  
Box 3. Folder 3-4. Press releases, 2010, undated  
Box 3. Folder 7-8. Miscellaneous, 1996-2006

### Series B. Alphabetical Files, 1966-1992

**Extent** 4.8 linear feet (12 Hollinger boxes)

#### Box and Folder Listing

Box 4. Folder A.

Box 5. Folder B.

Box 6. Folder C.

Box 7. Folder D-Ga.

Box 8. Folder Ge-Legislation.

Box 9. Folder Legislation, house bills. Police practices, subpoena.

Box 10. Folder 1-7. Police practices, report-R.

Box 10. Folder 8-11. School desegregation.

Box 11. Folder 1-7. School desegregation.

Box 11. Folder 8-14. Schu-Su.

Box 12. Folder 1-8. T-Une.

Box 12. Folder 9-10. United States Commission on Civil Rights.

Box 13. Folder 1-6. United States Departments [includes Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Health, Education, and Welfare, Justice, Labor, and Transportation].

Box 13. Folder 7-10. United States Supreme Court.

Box 14. Folder United States Supreme Court.

Box 15. Folder 1-2. United States Supreme Court.

Box 15. Folder 3-8. V-W.