

## Justice George Bryan

1731-1791

### Term

1780-1791

### Professional Experience 1761

- Admitted to the Philadelphia bar, Before 1777
- Merchant, 1755-1770
- Signers of Paper Money, 1756, 1758
- Manager, Lottery to raise funds for a lighthouse at Cape Henlopen, Delaware Bay, 1761
- Member, Commission to oversee building of piers on Delaware River, 1762
- Street Commissioner, Philadelphia City, 1762-1765
- Member, Pennsylvania General Assembly, 1764
- Delegate, American Colonies, Stamp Act Congress, 1765
- Pier Commissioner, Pennsylvania, 1762-1766
- Governor John Penn appointed Bryan, Justice of the Peace, City and County of Philadelphia, November 19, 1764-1776
- Justice, Court of Trial of Negroes, 1770, 1773
- Naval Officer, Port of Philadelphia, June 3, 1776
- Prisoner Discharge Commissioner, City and County of Philadelphia, August 1776
- Justice of the Peace, City and County of Philadelphia, September 1776
- Member, Council of Safety, 1777
- Member, Supreme Executive Council, 1777-1779 (March 5, 1777-October 11, 1779) (Vice President, 1777-1779; acting President, May 15, 1778-December 3, 1778)
- Elected as representative of Philadelphia City to Pennsylvania Assembly, October 12, 1779-April 5, 1780
- Supreme Executive Council appointed Bryan, Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, April 5, 1780; recommissioned April 3, 1787
- Providence Island Trustee, 1780-1781
- Superintendent, Sale of City lots, 1781
- Delaware River Boundary Commissioner, 1782-1783
- Member, Council of Censors, June 18, 1784
- Antifederalist Delegate, Harrisburg Convention, 1788
- Died in Office, January 27, 1791

### Honors and Awards

- Wrote the Act against Slavery, 1780

### Memberships and Associations

- Trustee, University of Pennsylvania

### Sources

Joseph S. Foster, *Lawmaking and Legislators in Pennsylvania: A Biographical Dictionary Volume Three 1757-1777* 382 (2005); Joseph S. Foster, *In Pursuit of Equal Liberty: George Bryan the Revolution in Pennsylvania* (1994); Burton Alva Konkle, *George Bryan and the Constitution of Pennsylvania, 1721-1791* (1922); John Hill Martin, *Martin's Bench and Bar of Philadelphia* 23, 65, 202, 238, 241, 242, 253 (1883); G. S. Rowe, *Embattled Bench* 161, 202, 217-18, 221, 223-227, 237, 241, 254-56, 260-62, 268, 271-72, 276, 279-80, 282-87, 289 (1994); George Bryan, Wikipedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Bryan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Bryan).

