

professional competence, and judicial temperament.” In the past, leading Democratic Senators have called the ABA’s rating system the “gold standard” for judicial nominees.

During this week’s hearings and over the course of his career, Judge Alito has demonstrated that he is eminently qualified to serve on our Nation’s highest Court. I’m grateful to Senator Arlen Specter for his superb work in chairing the hearings. I also thank Judge Alito’s wife, Martha, and the Alito children for their patience and dignity during the confirmation process.

Now the Senate has a duty to give Judge Alito a prompt up-or-down vote. I look forward to the Senate voting to confirm Sam

Alito as 110th Justice of the Supreme Court. America is fortunate to have a man of his intellect and integrity willing to serve, and as a Justice on our Nation’s highest Court, Sam Alito will make all Americans proud.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 8 a.m. on January 13 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on January 14. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 13 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Remarks to Reporters Following a Visit to the National Archives and Records Administration

January 16, 2006

It seems fitting on Martin Luther King Day that I come and look at the Emancipation Proclamation in its original form. Abraham Lincoln recognized that all men are created equal. Martin Luther King lived on that admonition to call our country to a higher calling, and today we celebrate the life of an American who called Americans to account when we didn’t live up to our ideals.

Allen, thanks for having me. I would strongly recommend our fellow citizens come to this house of archives, a house

that archives a lot of our important documents. It’s really an amazing place; it’s really fascinating. I appreciate you and your staff—thanking you.

All right, thank you all. See you later today.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9 a.m. in the East Rotunda Gallery. In his remarks, he referred to Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks at Georgetown University’s “Let Freedom Ring” Celebration

January 16, 2006

Thank you all. Thanks for the kind introduction, and thanks for the invitation to be here. It’s an honor to join you on this national holiday celebrating one of Amer-

ica’s most important lives, Martin Luther King, Jr.

Every year on this day, we reflect on the great movement for civil rights that