

RETIREMENT OF MR. JUSTICE MINTON AND
APPOINTMENT OF
MR. JUSTICE BRENNAN.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1956.

Present: MR. CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN, MR. JUSTICE BLACK, MR. JUSTICE REED, MR. JUSTICE FRANKFURTER, MR. JUSTICE DOUGLAS, MR. JUSTICE BURTON, MR. JUSTICE CLARK, and MR. JUSTICE HARLAN.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

With the concurrence of all my colleagues, I announce with regret the retirement from this Court of Mr. Justice Minton. He has been more than our associate. He has been our companion. We are reconciled to his departure only because it is in the interests of his health. We all wish for him in his retirement a restoration of his vigor and the satisfaction to which his distinguished services to his country so justly entitle him. Our appreciation of his services and our personal regard for him are more adequately expressed in a letter to him which, together with his warm reply, will be spread upon the Minutes of the Court.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES,
CHAMBERS OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE,
Washington 25, D. C., October 15, 1956.

DEAR JUSTICE MINTON:

As the day of your retirement from service on the Supreme Court arrives, the realization of our loss bears down upon us. If considerations other than your health had

prompted your decision, we would have joined in urging you to remain with us in active service. We appreciate, however, the sacrifice that your adherence to duty has already occasioned you. Both our admiration for you and our concern for your well-being have increased as you have so faithfully carried on your duties without the loss of a single day in recent years, either from the Bench or the Conference.

You have earned retirement—a long and satisfying one. Your distinguished services to your country as an Infantry Captain overseas in World War I, as a Senator from your native State of Indiana, as an Assistant to the President of the United States, as a member for eight years of the Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and for the past seven years as a Justice of the Supreme Court justly entitle you to the opportunity which retirement will afford you to recover your health.

We shall miss both your wise counsel and our constant companionship with you. While you no longer will be with us daily, you will continue to be one of us.

Sincerely,

EARL WARREN
HUGO L. BLACK
STANLEY F. REED
FELIX FRANKFURTER
WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS
HAROLD H. BURTON
TOM C. CLARK
JOHN M. HARLAN

HONORABLE SHERMAN MINTON,
Associate Justice of the Supreme Court,
Washington, D. C.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES,
CHAMBERS OF JUSTICE SHERMAN MINTON,
Washington 13, D. C., October 15, 1956.

MY DEAR CHIEF JUSTICE AND COLLEAGUES:

I am deeply grateful to all of you for the considerate and more than generous comments contained in your letter concerning my retirement.

My stay here has been a happy and rewarding one, sweetened always by the many acts of kindness and friendship you have shown me. It is with much regret that I take my leave of the Court and you, but it is comforting to know that I am still accepted as one of you.

I shall often think of you as I watch from afar. My fondest recollections will be of the Court and each of you with whom I have served.

Faithfully yours,
SHERMAN MINTON

THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND ASSOCIATE JUSTICES
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

We also welcome his successor. The President has appointed the Honorable William Joseph Brennan, Jr., an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, to succeed Mr. Justice Minton. Justice Brennan has taken the Constitutional Oath administered by the Chief Justice. He is now present in Court. The Clerk will read his commission. He will then take the Judicial Oath, to be administered by the Clerk, after which the Marshal will escort him to his seat on the Bench.

The Clerk then read the commission as follows:

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER,

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all who shall see these Presents, Greeting:

KNOW YE; That reposing special trust and confidence in the Wisdom, Uprightness and Learning of William Joseph Brennan, Jr., of New Jersey I do appoint him Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to the Constitution and Laws of the said United States, and to Have and to Hold the said Office, with all the powers, privileges and emoluments to the same of right appertaining, unto Him, the said William Joseph Brennan, Jr., until the end of the next session of the Senate of the United States and no longer; subject to the provisions of law.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have caused these Letters to be made patent and the seal of the Department of Justice to be hereunto affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this fifteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-first.

[SEAL]

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

HERBERT BROWNELL JR.

Attorney General.

The oath of office was then administered by the Clerk, and MR. JUSTICE BRENNAN was escorted by the Marshal to his seat on the bench.

The oaths taken by MR. JUSTICE BRENNAN are in the following words, viz:

I, William Joseph Brennan, Jr., do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter.

So help me God.

WILLIAM JOSEPH BRENNAN, JR.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this sixteenth day of October, A. D., 1956.

EARL WARREN,
Chief Justice of the United States.

I, William Joseph Brennan, Jr., do solemnly swear that I will administer justice without respect to persons, and do equal right to the poor and to the rich, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States according to the best of my abilities and understanding, agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the United States.

So help me God.

WILLIAM JOSEPH BRENNAN, JR.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this sixteenth day of October, A. D., 1956.

JOHN T. FEY,
Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States.

