

APPOINTMENT OF JUSTICE KENNEDY

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1988

Present: CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST, JUSTICE BRENNAN, JUSTICE WHITE, JUSTICE BLACKMUN, JUSTICE STEVENS, JUSTICE O'CONNOR, and JUSTICE SCALIA.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

This special sitting of the Court is held today to receive the commission of the newly appointed Associate Justice of the United States, Anthony M. Kennedy. The Court now recognizes the Attorney General of the United States. Mr. Meese.

The Attorney General said:

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE and may it please the Court, I have the commission which has been issued to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. The commission has been duly signed by the President of the United States and attested by me as the Attorney General of the United States. I move that the Clerk read the commission and that it be made part of the permanent records of this Court.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

Thank you Mr. Attorney General; your motion is granted. Mr. Clerk, will you please read the commission?

The Clerk then read the commission as follows:

RONALD REAGAN,

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 Anthony M. Kennedy, of California, I have nominated, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfill 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 Anthony M. Kennedy, during his good behavior.

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 eleventh day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twelfth.

[SEAL]

RONALD REAGAN

By the President:

EDWIN MEESE, III,
Attorney General

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

I now ask the Deputy Marshall of the Court to escort Judge Kennedy to the center of the bench.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

Judge Kennedy, are you prepared to take the oath?

Judge Kennedy said:

I am.

I, Anthony M. Kennedy, 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 upon 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; 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 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 of which I am about to enter.

So help me God.

ANTHONY M. KENNEDY

Subscribed and sworn to before me this eighteenth day of February, 1988.

WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST,
Chief Justice

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

JUSTICE KENNEDY, on behalf of all the members of the Court, it is a pleasure to extend to you a very warm welcome as an Associate Justice of this Court and to wish for you a very long life and a long and happy career in our common calling.

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