

APPOINTMENT OF JUSTICE SOUTER

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1990

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

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 Supreme Court of the United States, David Hackett Souter. The Court now recognizes the Attorney General of the United States. Mr. Thornburgh.

The Attorney General said:

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE and may it please the Court, I have the commission which has been issued to the Honorable David Hackett Souter 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:

GEORGE BUSH,

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 David H. Souter, of New Hampshire, I have nominated, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him an 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 David H. Souter, 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 third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

[SEAL]

GEORGE BUSH

By the President:

DICK THORNBURGH,

Attorney General

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

I now ask the Chief Deputy Clerk of the Court to escort Judge Souter to the bench.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

Judge Souter, are you ready to take the oath?

Judge Souter said:

I am.

The oath of office was then administered by THE CHIEF JUSTICE in the following words:

I, David Hackett Souter, 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, agreeable to the Constitution and laws of the United States.

So help me God.

DAVID H. SOUTER

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ninth day of October, 1990.

WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

Chief Justice

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

JUSTICE SOUTER, 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 the Court and to wish for you a long and happy career in our common calling.

