

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2005

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Present: JUSTICE STEVENS, JUSTICE O'CONNOR, JUSTICE SCALIA, JUSTICE KENNEDY, JUSTICE SOUTER, JUSTICE THOMAS, JUSTICE GINSBURG, and JUSTICE BREYER.

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The Marshal said:

All Rise, the President of the United States.

JUSTICE STEVENS said:

On behalf of the Court, Mr. President, I extend to you a warm welcome. This special sitting of the Court is held today to receive the Commission of the newly appointed Chief Justice of the United States, John G. Roberts, Jr. The Court will now recognize the Attorney General of the United States, Alberto Gonzales.

Attorney General Gonzales said:

JUSTICE STEVENS, and may it please the Court. I have the Commission which has been issued to the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr., as Chief Justice 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.

JUSTICE STEVENS said:

Thank you, General Gonzales, your motion is granted. Mr. Clerk, will you please read the Commission?

The Clerk read the Commission:

GEORGE W. 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 John G. Roberts, Jr., of Maryland, I have nominated, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him Chief Justice 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 John G. Roberts, Jr., 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 twenty-ninth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

[SEAL]

GEORGE W. BUSH

By the President:

ALBERTO GONZALES,  
*Attorney General*

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JUSTICE STEVENS said:

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

JUSTICE STEVENS said:

Are you ready to take the oath?

Judge Roberts said:

I am.

JUSTICE STEVENS said:

Will you repeat after me?

Judge Roberts said:

I, John G. Roberts, 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 upon me as the Chief Justice of the United States under the Constitution and laws of the United States. So help me God.

JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this third day of October, 2005.

JOHN PAUL STEVENS

*Associate Justice*

JUSTICE STEVENS said:

CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS, on behalf of all the members of the Court, it is a pleasure to extend to you a very warm welcome as the 17th Chief Justice of the United States and to wish you a long and happy career in our common calling.