

## APPOINTMENT OF JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR

### SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

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Present: CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS, JUSTICE SCALIA,  
JUSTICE KENNEDY, JUSTICE THOMAS, JUSTICE GINSBURG,  
JUSTICE BREYER, JUSTICE ALITO, and JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR.

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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, Sonia Sotomayor.

We are pleased to have with us today the President of the United States. On behalf of the Court, I extend to you a warm welcome. We are also pleased to have present Vice President Biden and our retired colleague, Justice Souter. Welcome Mr. Vice President and welcome back, Justice Souter. The Court now recognizes the Attorney General of the United States, Eric Holder.

Attorney General Holder said:

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE, and may it please the Court. I have the Commission which has been issued to the Honorable Sonia Sotomayor, 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, Attorney General Holder, your motion is granted. Mr. Clerk, will you please read the Commission.

The Clerk read the Commission:

BARACK OBAMA,

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 Sonia Sotomayor, of New York, I have nominated, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint her an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and do authorize and empower her 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 her, the said Sonia Sotomayor, during her 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 sixth day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

[SEAL]

BARACK OBAMA

By the President:

ERIC H. HOLDER,  
*Attorney General*

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THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

I now ask the Deputy Clerk of the Court to escort Justice Sotomayor to the bench.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

Are you ready to take the oath?

Justice Sotomayor said:

I am.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

Please repeat after me.

Justice Sotomayor said:

I, Sonia Sotomayor, 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 an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States under the Constitution and laws of the United States. So help me God.

SONIA SOTOMAYOR

Subscribed and sworn to before me this eighth day of September, 2009.

JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR.

*Chief Justice*

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR, on behalf of all the members of the Court, it is my pleasure to extend to you a very warm welcome as the 111th Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and to wish you a long and happy career in our common calling.

JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR said:

Thank you.