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Subject: Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh

Attachments: [Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh - Background.pdf](#)
[State Attorneys General Support Letter.pdf](#)

State Leaders and Staff,

Last week, President Donald J. Trump nominated Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court. Below you will find a wrap-up of information on Judge Kavanaugh.

- [BACKGROUND BRIEF](#) | Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh (Attached)
- [SUPPORTIVE LETTER](#) | 26 State Attorneys General Write Supporting Judge Kavanaugh (Attached)



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President Donald J. Trump announces Judge Brett Kavanaugh as his nominee for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States in the East Room of the White House on Monday, July 9, 2018, who was joined by his wife Ashley Kavanaugh and daughters Margaret and Liza. (Official White House Photo by Joyce N. Boghosian)

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING | Governors Issues Statements Supporting Judge Brett Kavanaugh

- Gov. Kay Ivey (AL): "I applaud President Trump for his nomination of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court. Judge Kavanaugh clearly understands the proper role of a judge is to interpret the law as it is written and apply the law impartially."
- Gov. Asa Hutchinson (AR): "I like President Trump's nomination of Brett Kavanaugh for the Supreme Court. He is highly qualified & has demonstrated his dedication to the rule of law through his service on the DC Circuit. I am hopeful for his timely confirmation."
- Gov. Doug Ducey (AZ): "I want to offer my congratulations to Judge Brett Kavanaugh for being nominated by @realdonaldtrump to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. We're counting on Judge Kavanaugh to get a fair and speedy hearing by the U.S. Senate."
- Gov. Rick Scott (FL): "I am glad President Trump nominated Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court and look forward to learning more about his record."
- Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo (Guam): "On behalf of the people of Guam, Lt. Governor Ray Tenorio and I support President Donald J. Trump's nomination of federal Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court. Judge Kavanaugh's experience and success in his duties make him a prime candidate for this prestigious position on the Supreme Court. We look forward to his approval by Congress and wish him the best during his nomination process."
- Gov. Kim Reynolds (IA): "A great pick by @POTUS @realDonaldTrump. Judge Kavanaugh is a highly respected jurist who will apply laws as written, not as he would write them. A great day for America, for our constitutional tradition & for the rule of law."
- Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter (ID): "In Judge Kavanaugh, President Trump has a SCOTUS nominee committed to upholding the Constitution, federalism, the rule of law and the proper role of government."

- Gov. Bruce Rauner (IL): "Our nation deserves a justice who is qualified, experienced, and will faithfully interpret and defend the Constitution. Judge Brett Kavanaugh has impressive credentials and he deserves a fair hearing and swift vote on his nomination."
- Gov. Eric Holcomb (IN): "Congratulations to Judge Brett Kavanaugh for his nomination to the #SCOTUS. The President has nominated a strong candidate who will uphold the Constitution & be a great addition to the court."
- Gov. Jeff Colyer (KS): "I could not be more thrilled that President Trump has selected Judge Brett Kavanaugh to serve on the Supreme Court. For the first time in a long time we will have a majority of constitutional conservatives on the Supreme Court, who will defend liberty and adhere to the constitution as written. The Senate should move quickly to confirm Judge Kavanaugh to fill Justice Kennedy's seat."
- Gov. Paul LePage (ME): "As the person with the responsibility of appointing Maine's judges for the past seven-and-a-half years, I know how essential it is that our jurists have good character and are faithful to the Constitution. I strongly support the nomination of Judge Kavanaugh, There is a saying, 'As Maine goes, so goes the nation.' Maine's senior Senator Susan Collins embodies that saying. I am confident that Senator Collins, as she has done with prior judicial nominations, will vote upon the President's nominee based upon his qualifications and experience, not on partisan politics. I hope other senators do the same."
- Gov. Mike Parson (MO): "Thanks to @realDonaldTrump, America is one step closer to a Supreme Court that reflects our values. The senate should move swiftly to confirm Judge Kavanaugh."
- Gov. Phil Bryant (MS): "Judge Brett Kavanaugh is committed to the rule of law and will uphold the Constitution. @realDonaldTrump made an outstanding selection who deserves swift confirmation by the Senate."
- Gov. Doug Burgum (ND): "In Judge Brett Kavanaugh, @POTUS has nominated an eminently qualified, highly respected jurist who will fairly and faithfully interpret the law and Constitution as written. Here's hoping for a speedy Senate confirmation process."
- Gov. Pete Ricketts (NE): "Thank you to @POTUS for nominating Judge Kavanaugh — a jurist with a proven record of respecting the Constitution."
- Gov. Mary Fallin (OK): "Judge Brett Kavanaugh has a proven track record as the type of jurist that @realDonaldTrump has promised to put on the Supreme Court. He has shown he is fair, impartial, and faithful to the Constitution. He will be a great addition to the Supreme Court."
- Gov. Henry McMaster (SC): "I have no doubt that Judge Brett Kavanaugh will make an outstanding Justice of the Supreme Court and will strictly defend the rule of law. President Trump promised to nominate conservative judges who will strictly follow the Constitution and exercise restraint rather than activism, and once again he has done just that."
- Gov. Dennis Daugaard (SD): "Big Supreme Court news yesterday. It was great to join Mark E. Salter as he was sworn in as justice of the South Dakota Supreme Court. Looks like there was a good announcement in DC also."
- Gov. Bill Haslam (TN): "Judge Brett Kavanaugh is an exceptional choice by President Donald Trump for the Supreme Court, and if confirmed, will uphold the Constitution and defend the rule of

law. Judge Kavanaugh is uniquely qualified to serve on the Supreme Court, and his record shows that he will apply the law as written and enforce the original understanding of the Constitution. We congratulate Judge Kavanaugh on his nomination and look forward to his swift confirmation."

- Gov. Greg Abbott (TX): "#SCOTUS nominee Kavanaugh gets prolonged & robust applause from Senators on his announcement. This bodes well for the strength of support he should get for confirmation. Kavanaugh brings substantial credentials to @Scotus."
- Gov. Gary Herbert (UT): "I hope the Kavanaugh confirmation can follow what we do in Utah, namely focus on judicial philosophy, track record, temperament and character, rather than politics."
- Gov. Scott Walker (WI): "Brett Kavanaugh is an excellent nominee to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court."
- Gov. Jim Justice (WV): "President Trump has made a great choice in Judge Kavanaugh to fill Justice Kennedy's vacancy on the Court. He has kept his promise to the American people and appointed another conservative judge who will uphold our Constitution and not decide the law based upon personal policy preferences. I strongly encourage Senator Shelley Moore Capito and Senator Joe Manchin to vote to confirm Judge Kavanaugh."
- Gov. Matt Mead (WY): "Like Judge Gorsuch who came from our own 10th Circuit, Judge Kavanaugh is an outstanding jurist. His record on the bench, his long public service career, and his volunteer work in the community are all impressive. Judge Kavanaugh will be a fine addition to the U.S. Supreme Court and my hope is that the confirmation process is completed without delay."



Judge Brett Kavanaugh and his family look on as President Donald J. Trump signs a document on Monday, July 9, 2018, in the Treaty Room of the White House, naming Kavanaugh as his nominee to become the next Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. (Official White House Photo by Shealah Craighead)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL | "Kavanaugh's Collegial Nature Could Change Supreme Court's Tenor"

"Judge Kavanaugh's connection with nearly every justice, and his reputation as a straight-shooter even among those who disagree with him, suggests he would make the ride as smooth as possible."

Kavanaugh's Collegial Nature Could Change Supreme Court's Tenor

By Jess Bravin and Brent Kendall

The Wall Street Journal

July 15, 2018

...

Judge Kavanaugh's connection with nearly every justice, and his reputation as a straight-shooter even among those who disagree with him, suggests he would make the ride as smooth as possible.

...

The next justice's demeanor could calm an institution no longer entirely immune to the discord that now defines Washington.

"They say every time you get a new justice, the whole chemistry of the court changes," said Daniel Epps, a law professor at Washington University in St. Louis.

...

Last term alone, former Kavanaugh clerks worked for Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Kennedy, Samuel Alito and Elena Kagan. Justices Stephen Breyer and Neil Gorsuch each have hired a Kavanaugh clerk for the new term that begins in October.

In several recent years Judge Kavanaugh has joined with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and other Democratic appointees for mock trials staged by Washington's Shakespeare Theatre Company.

Judge Kavanaugh took pains to praise another liberal judge, Robert Katzmann of the Second Circuit in New York, when reviewing his book, "Judging Statutes," which advanced legal methods at odds with his own.

"Chief Judge Katzmann is one of America's finest judges and a true role model for me and many others, both in how he approaches his job and in how he seeks to improve the system of justice," Judge Kavanaugh wrote two years ago in the Harvard Law Review. "Even where I disagree, I have learned a great deal."

In response, Chief Judge Katzmann wrote, "I could not have hoped for a more thoughtful examination of the subject."

Should he join the Supreme Court, Judge Kavanaugh "already has built-in relationships. He's a voice the justices are going to be primed to listen to," said Luke McCloud, a lawyer at Williams & Connolly LLP who clerked for Judge Kavanaugh before clerking for Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

Mr. McCloud said that on the D.C. Circuit, Judge Kavanaugh "always tried to take his colleagues' views into account even when he disagreed with them."

...

When Mr. Trump announced his nomination this month, Judge Kavanaugh tried to show that times had changed. He thanked Justice Kagan, a 2010 Barack Obama appointee, for hiring him to teach a course when she was dean of Harvard Law School.

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Read the full article [here](#).



Full Article [Here](#).

SUPPORT | Statements of Support for Judge Brett Kavanaugh Pour In

This week, 18 of Judge Brett Kavanaugh's female law clerks, 26 State Attorneys General, and more than 160 members

of the Yale University community have signed letters praising his unsurpassed qualifications for a seat on the United States Supreme Court.

Judge Kavanaugh's female law clerks speak highly of the support and mentorship that he has provided, stating unequivocally that he "has been one of the strongest advocates in the federal judiciary for women lawyers."

"Starting with the numbers, Judge Kavanaugh has hired 25 women and 23 men as law clerks, achieving rare gender parity. That includes one year in which the Judge hired four women law clerks—something we understand had never previously been done at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. And he has sent 21 of those 25 women clerks—an impressive 84 percent—on to clerkships at the Supreme Court. During his White House remarks on July 9, 2018, Judge Kavanaugh said: 'I look for the best.' We are proud that so many of those hires have been talented women."

A majority of the Nation's State Attorneys General are urging the United States Senate to confirm Judge Kavanaugh, describing him as "an outstanding jurist with a proven commitment to upholding the Constitution and the rule of law."

"We have no doubt that he possesses the qualifications, temperament, and judicial philosophy to be an excellent Associate Justice. Throughout his career, Judge Kavanaugh has demonstrated an abiding commitment to the principles and freedoms on which our country was founded, and an unshakable respect for the proper role of the courts within our constitutional structure. The Senate should confirm Judge Kavanaugh without delay."

Yale students, alumni, and faculty signed a letter highlighting Judge Kavanaugh as "a faithful servant to his community" and praising him as "one of our nation's most distinguished jurists."

"Throughout his time on the federal bench, Judge Kavanaugh has been a valuable friend to the Yale community, visiting frequently to speak on important topics and to encourage admitted students to begin their legal careers in New Haven. More importantly, Judge Kavanaugh has been a faithful servant to his community in the Washington D.C. area. He is a basketball coach for his daughters' teams, and a regular volunteer with Catholic Charities. As the many students he has mentored will attest, he is a person of deep conviction and integrity. We are proud of Judge Kavanaugh's nomination, and believe that his accomplishments and qualifications speak for themselves."

Read the letter from Judge Kavanaugh's female law clerks [here](#).

Read the letter from the nation's states Attorneys General [here](#).

Read the letter from the Yale community [here](#).



Vice President Mike Pence meets with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Supreme Court Nominee Judge Brett Kavanaugh and former United States Senator Jon Kyl on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, in Washington, D.C. (Official White House Photo by D. Myles Cullen)

WHAT THE LEGAL COMMUNITY IS SAYING | Judge Brett Kavanaugh's Nomination To the Supreme Court

Law Professors and Deans

- Georgetown Law Professor Randy Barnett: "Kavanaugh's appointment would move the Court in the direction of textualism and originalism."
- George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School Adjunct Professor Jamil Jaffer: "Judge Kavanaugh is an inspired pick by the President for this nomination to the Supreme Court."
- Harvard Law School Professor Jack Goldsmith: "Brett Kavanaugh is immensely qualified for the Supreme Court: an outstanding lawyer and judge; a great teacher and serious scholar of the law; and a generous, honorable, kind person."
- Harvard Law School Professor John Manning: "An inspiring teacher and mentor, Judge Kavanaugh has somehow always found extra time for his students, whether to dig deeper into important legal questions or to offer valuable career advice. Let me take this occasion to thank Judge Kavanaugh for the generosity, dedication, and collegiality he has shown our community."
- Harvard Law School Professor Richard Lazarus: "Judge Kavanaugh has been an outstanding member of our teaching faculty. Our students have benefited enormously from his generous devotion of his time, his skills as a jurist, and his legal acumen."
- Hofstra Law Associate Dean and Professor Julian Ku: "My overall take: Kavanaugh has set forth his views on the status of [international] law in US law much more clearly than any sitting SCOTUS justice and most federal judges. He would be a SCOTUS thought leader on these issues if he is confirmed."
- University of Southern California Gould School of Law Professor Orin Kerr: "[Kavanaugh] has been a prominent conservative judge on the D.C. Circuit, and he is well known and well liked among the conservative legal elite. He has also been a thought leader whose views get attention and respect among the current Supreme Court justices."
- Yale Law School Dean Heather Gerken: "I have known Brett Kavanaugh for many years. I can personally attest that, in addition to his government and judicial service, Judge Kavanaugh has been a longtime friend to many of us in the Yale Law School community. Ever since I joined the faculty, I have admired him for serving as a teacher and mentor to our students and for hiring a diverse set of clerks, in all respects, during his time on the court."
- Yale Law School Professor Akhil Reed Amar: "Judge Kavanaugh commands wide and deep respect among scholars, lawyers, judges, and justices. Good appellate judges faithfully follow the Supreme Court; great ones influence and help steer the Court. Several of Kavanaugh's biggest ideas have found their way into Supreme Court opinions."
- Yale Law School Professor William Eskridge: "Brett Kavanaugh has been one of the most learned judges in America

on a variety of issues, ranging from theories of statutory interpretation to separation of powers. We are proud that he is our graduate and eager to continue to learn from his judicial opinions and scholarly publications.”

- Yale Law School Professor Abbe Gluck: “... Brett Kavanaugh is a true intellectual--a leading thinker and writer on the subjects of statutory interpretation and federal courts; an incomparable mentor--someone who picks law clerks of all backgrounds and viewpoints; and a fair-minded jurist who believes in the rule of law. He is humble, collegial and cares deeply about the federal courts.”
 - Yale Law School Professor Kate Stith: “He is a terrific judge. In my federal criminal law class, I love teaching his opinions because they are smart, thoughtful, and clear. He’s also been a wonderful mentor and teacher to our students—not just to those who clerk for him, but those who meet with him during one of his many visits to Yale Law School.”
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Full Article [Here](#).

Judge Kavanaugh’s Former Law Clerks

- Marguerite Colson: “Brett Kavanaugh loves being a judge. But even more than being a judge, he loves being a father, friend, and mentor. He takes responsibility for each and every one of his clerks (no matter their ideological stripe), striving for their personal and professional success as if it were his own.”
- Gillian Grossman: “My clerkship with Judge Kavanaugh was as much a lesson in graciousness, humility, and compassion as it was in the law. Judge Kavanaugh’s herculean work ethic and extraordinary intellect are matched only by his unimpeachable integrity and his love for his country.”
- Zac Hudson: “Judge Kavanaugh is a brilliant person who has a deep and nuanced understanding of the law. He judges each case fairly and independently based on an assessment of the facts and arguments with which he is presented. Policy and politics do not alter his approach to judging. This country would be fortunate to have Brett Kavanaugh as a Supreme Court Justice.”
- Saritha Komatireddy: “I considered it a special privilege to train under a man who had such fundamental respect for the law and a complete commitment to getting it right.”
- Travis Lenkner: “Judge Kavanaugh is a fair, independent judge for whom fidelity to the Constitution is the guiding light. He has been an incredible mentor to me and to all of his law clerks and students. He is a kind, genuine, down-to-earth person and a devoted husband and father. I know without a doubt that he will be a wonderful

Supreme Court Justice.”

- Caroline Littleton: “At the end of my clerkship, my parents sent a short note to Judge Kavanaugh, thanking him for having been such a wonderful boss and mentor to me. Their note very easily could have gone without response, but instead Judge Kavanaugh took the time to write a heartfelt note in return, thanking them for how they raised me. To this day (nearly six years later), my parents still cherish that note. This is the kind of person that Judge Kavanaugh is—an extraordinarily thoughtful man, who goes out of his way to be kind.”
 - Jennifer Mascott: “Judge Kavanaugh has one of the sharpest legal minds in the country. He has been a thought leader on the D.C. Circuit and has served consistently as an independent, fair-minded judge. He is very down-to-earth and kind and I am grateful for his willingness to serve as a mentor to his clerks.”
 - Roman Martinez: “Ten years ago, I was honored to serve as law clerk to Judge Kavanaugh at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. I saw firsthand his reverence for the Constitution, his integrity, his fairness, and his overriding commitment to do justice in every case, big or small.”
 - Sarah Pitlyk: “Judge Kavanaugh is an exemplary judge: brilliant, principled, and faithful to the text. He is also a gifted writer who meticulously crafts every opinion. His excellence and dedication have earned him the admiration of colleagues across the political spectrum. It is hard to imagine anyone better suited to serve on the Supreme Court.”
 - Richard Re: “Judge Kavanaugh is a master of the legal craft. His opinions are scholarly, influential, and unyieldingly reasoned. He has already left an important mark on the law, and, if confirmed, he would continue to be a fair-minded voice on the bench.”
 - Hagan Scotten: “Judge Kavanaugh is a great judge who will make a great Justice. I learned a ton from Judge Kavanaugh even before I clerked for him, when I took a class he taught at my law school. He taught with the knowledge and clarity of the best professors. And his dedication to his students was legendary.”
 - Indraneel Sur: “Since his first day at the D.C. Circuit, Judge Kavanaugh has stood ready to invest whatever amount of energy is necessary to get the reasoning and the result right in every case ... Of course, he would bring that same tireless dedication to the rule of law to the Supreme Court where he confirmed.”
 - Rebecca Taibleson: “Judge Kavanaugh is a brilliant judge, and he has the disposition to match. He is even-handed, kind, and honest with everyone—colleagues, litigants, and staff alike.”
 - Caroline Van Zile: “Judge Kavanaugh is incredibly qualified to be an associate justice of the Supreme Court. Beyond that, he is a good, kind and fair-minded person. Americans should be proud to have someone with his independence, integrity and character on the bench.”
 - Justin Walker: “Anyone who knows Judge Brett Kavanaugh knows he reveres the Constitution. For 12 years on the second most important court in the country, Judge Kavanaugh has applied the Constitution as it is written. He knows that judging means going where text and precedent lead you, in a fair-minded, evenhanded manner ... That passion for our constitutional structure is among the reasons he’s the smartest lawyer I’ve ever met and the best teacher I’ve ever had.”
 - Katie Wellington: “The year I clerked for Judge Kavanaugh, he had hired four female law clerks—a first for any Judge on the D.C. Circuit. Today, he is a mentor to each of us as we pursue careers in public service, private practice, and academia.”
 - Candice Wong: “Judge Kavanaugh taught us, his clerks, to be meticulous; he showed us that by thinking more rigorously and working more ferociously than any of us. But he also showed us the importance of hearing out all sides of an issue, being gracious to all parties, and making time for family and friends (and maybe some marathon training) outside of work.”
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 **Raj Shah** 
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.@AP: Supreme Court nominee dishes out mac and cheese to homeless



Supreme Court nominee dishes out mac and cheese to homeless
WASHINGTON (AP) — Pausing in his pursuit of Supreme Court robes, nominee Brett Kavanaugh donned a blue apron Wednesday afternoon to help serve meals t...
apnews.com

Full Article [Here](#).

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

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