

From: Lt. Governor's Office
To: [Tori Beth Black <ToriBethBlack@scstatehouse.gov>](mailto:ToriBethBlack@scstatehouse.gov)
Date: 7/9/2018 11:04:51 AM
Subject: FW: Supreme Court Nominee

*Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)*

From: Lauren Patten [<mailto:lpatten@rslc.gop>]
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2018 10:20 AM
To: Lauren Patten
Subject: RE: Supreme Court Nominee

Good Morning Governor,

There's still time to be added to the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs surrogate list for tonight's Supreme Court nomination.

If you are interested working with the White House to issue a statement of support for tonight's nominee, please respond to me (lpatten@rslc.gop) by 1:00PM Eastern this afternoon and we will share your name and contact information with the White House. They will be in touch with you from there.

Here are a few news clips covering this weekend's developments:

[Trump 'very close' to decision on Supreme Court pick \(CNN\)](#)

- President Donald Trump said Sunday afternoon he still had not made his final decision on a Supreme Court nominee, but anticipated finishing by Monday.
- "I'm very close to making a decision," Trump said. "Have not made it official yet, obviously. Have not made it final. But we're very close to making a decision."
- Before boarding Air Force One en route to Washington, Trump said he was considering four people and that of those under consideration, "you can't go wrong."

[Trump teases Supreme Court pick, vows 'exceptional person will be chosen' \(Fox News\)](#)

- "I'm very close to making a final decision. And I believe this person will do a great job," Trump told reports as he left for Washington from a weekend at his New Jersey golf club.
- When asked how many people were being considered, the president said: "Let's say it's the four people ... they're excellent, every one. You can't go wrong." Trump added that he would make his final decision "tonight or tomorrow sometime by 12 o'clock and we're all gonna be meeting at nine o'clock."
- The Trump administration has been preparing information materials on four potential nominees: appeals court judges Brett Kavanaugh, Raymond Kethledge, Amy Coney Barrett, and Thomas Hardiman.
- Sources who talked to Trump Sunday morning tell Fox News that the president's top two choices are Kavanaugh and Hardiman, though a GOP source said late Sunday that Barrett still has a good chance of being the pick.

[McConnell Tries to Nudge Trump Toward Two Supreme Court Options \(NYT\)](#)

- Senator Mitch McConnell, the Republican leader, told President Trump this past week that Judges Raymond M. Kethledge and Thomas M. Hardiman presented the fewest obvious obstacles to being confirmed to replace Justice Anthony M. Kennedy on the Supreme Court, according to Republican officials briefed on the conversation.
- While careful not to directly make the case for any would-be justice, Mr. McConnell made clear in multiple phone calls with Mr. Trump and the White House counsel, Donald F. McGahn II, that the lengthy paper trail of another top contender, Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh, would pose difficulties for his confirmation.

[Trump weighs top picks for Supreme Court amid last-minute maneuvering \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

- President Donald Trump said he was "close" to choosing a Supreme Court nominee Sunday after a weekend at his New

- Jersey golf club evaluating four leading candidates and mulling the likely response of key senators and his core supporters to each prospect, according to White House officials and Trump advisers involved in the discussions.
- Over rounds of golf with friends, meals with family, and a flurry of phone calls and meetings with aides, Trump remained coy about his final decision, which is expected to be announced Monday evening from among the four federal judges atop his shortlist: Brett Kavanaugh, Thomas Hardiman, Raymond Kethledge and Amy Coney Barrett.

From: Lauren Patten
Sent: Friday, July 6, 2018 11:59 AM
To: Lauren Patten <lpatten@rslc.gop>
Subject: Supreme Court Nominee

Good Morning Governors,

With the retirement of Justice Kennedy, President Trump has the historic opportunity to appoint a new Justice to uphold our Constitution and its values. In advance of the nomination, the RSLC would like to gather names of elected Leaders who would be interested in issuing a statement of support through the White House.

We will be sharing an initial list with the White House this evening, July 6.

Please let us know by 4:00PM today if you or members of your leadership team would like to be contacted by the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to sign statements of support for the forthcoming Supreme Court nominee.

Thank you,

Lauren Patten
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