

Expected partisan battle for Supreme Court seat has played out twice before

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President Barack Obama said he would nominate a replacement.

Waiting for the next president to make a nomination would leave Scalia's seat empty for at least 11 months, an unprecedented gap in recent decades. As Trevor Burrus at the Cato Institute noted after Scalia's death, "Now, two qualifications are paramount for possible Supreme Court justices: 1) youth; 2) ideological conformity". By contrast, Scalia's replacement could swing the court firmly into the liberal camp.

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's sudden death has raised a lot of questions as to what happens next for the Supreme Court. "The grueling nomination process also means that prospective nominees must have led ideologically milquetoast lives, never having said too much to push the wrong people's buttons, but having said just enough to convince the party that they are a predictable, party-line vote".

Srinivasan, whose mother is from Chennai and father was from Tirunelveli, is considered to have a bipartisan support in the Congress and is popular among both Democrats and Republican lawmakers. The US vice president would cast a deciding vote if needed.

Republican Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell has already warned Obama not to try to fill the vacancy on the Court, saying it should be up to a new president to weigh in once voters have spoken in November.

The president took about a month to nominate Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor to fill earlier vacancies on the court.

He was Obama's principal deputy solicitor general, most notably working on the successful fight against the Defense of Marriage Act. And yes, Republicans have the right not to confirm a nominee. If Republicans are determined torpedo Obama's nominee, the committee may simply offer no opinion.

Kristina Mills, a history teacher at nearby Chapin High School, came to pay her respects and brought flowers.

But that won't work this time because Obama has no leverage. As Sen. Sanders said, to deny President Obama his absurd and a violation of the democratic principles that our nation is supposed to stand for.

Chris Lujan of the Sunset Funeral Homes said if an autopsy is requested by Scalia's family or ordered by a justice of the peace, then an El Paso County medical examiner would likely perform it at the funeral home, but judge Guevara said no autopsy was necessary.

"We're advising that a lame-duck president in an election year is not going to be able to tip the balance of the Supreme Court, that we're going to have an election", he said.

George W. Bush nominee Harriet Miers withdrew her name following intense scrutiny and criticism.

Scalia was the 103rd person to sit on the court. Democratic presidential candidates, like their Republican counterparts, wasted no time in leveraging the death of Scalia into a campaign rallying call.

Last week the court - with Scalia's backing - froze the implementation of a major White House effort to cut carbon emissions, after a Republican legal challenge.

Less than 12 hours after the news broke that Scalia died, Republican senators across the nation began pushing hard to keep Obama from appointing a new justice.

That could have deep ramifications for cases coming before the court, which include a full hearing on the emissions reductions to immigration orders.