



## **The Latest: Bush: Senate court vote 'not important' to him**

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February 15, 2016

Scalia acknowledged wanting to be replaced by a like-minded successor *and* might have thought about retirement if a Republican were elected in 2016, Ward said.

Earlier Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press", Rubio deflected questions from host Chuck Todd about whether it was the Senate's obligation to vote on Obama's nominee.

We talked with Michael Schwartz, the dean of UALR's Bowen School of Law for an idea of what may come next. There are no national holidays for Thomas Edison or the Wright Brothers. Justice Clarence Thomas said, "It is hard to imagine the court without my friend".

"Does the person that we are nominating have a consistent *and* proven record of interpreting the Constitution as initially meant?"

Scalia, who was born in 1936 in Trenton, New Jersey, was appointed to the high court by former U.S. President Ronald Reagan in 1986 until his death.

Obama is traveling in California *and* returns to **Washington** on Tuesday. *And* the White House cannot win the public opinion war because the key constituency is the Republican base.

The news raised the stakes of the presidential election, *and* - as Sen.

**LISA DESJARDINS:** They absolutely can.

"It would be a sheer dereliction of duty for the Senate not to have a *hearing*, not to have a vote", Senator Leahy said.

For his previous two Supreme Court picks, Elena Kagan *and* Sonia Sotomayor, the president took about 30 days each to announce his selection after their predecessors, Justice John Paul Stevens *and* Justice David Souter, respectively, said they planned to step down.

Republicans campaigning for the party's presidential nomination said President Barack Obama - a Democrat - should not try to replace Scalia before he leaves office in January. "*And* they said,

'Absolutely not.' At that *time*, I still wanted to be careful and asked them if [Scalia's] physician would call me".

Not all legal experts agree with the view Roberts could issue a decision using Scalia's vote. Bernie Sanders says the Constitution clearly gives the president this power. Guevara says the declaration was made around 1:52 p.m. Saturday. They're pushing back very hard.

79-year-old Justice Scalia, the longest-serving justice on the Supreme Court, died on Sunday in his sleep while on a hunting trip in Texas.

We want to hear from you.

We do have a couple of precedents in terms of vacancies in election years.

Ilya Shapiro, the editor-in-chief of the Cato Institute's "Cato Supreme Court Review", told CBS News that Garland would be "the most moderate Democratic" possibility - *and* therefore the "least controversial" appointment the president could make. That was blocked until Richard Nixon became president.