



Trump nominates KU graduate for federal judgeship

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May 15, 2017

There's an unusually large number of vacancies in the federal courts. The nominations are lifetime appointments.

Two of the judges, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Joan Larsen and Minnesota Supreme Court Justice David Stras, were on a shortlist of 21 potential U.S. Supreme Court nominees that Trump compiled during his presidential campaign. "So the question of who would pick judges to both the Supreme Court and the lower courts was the most important issue for many Americans last November". "While today's nomination by the president is a well-deserved recognition of these attributes, Joan nonetheless will be missed by her colleagues who have very much enjoyed working with her on behalf of the people of MI".

Conservative activists praised the latest nominations.

In an effort to remake the nation's judiciary with conservative justices, Trump is expected to announce 10 federal court nominees on Monday.

"President Trump is showing a courageous commitment to picking principled conservatives for the federal bench", Blackwell said.

State Trial Judge David C. Nye of Idaho, nominated to the U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho.

Thapar is the only pending official nominee to a lower federal court until the Trump administration releases the new list of 10 Monday.

Trump nominated Dabney Friedrich, who was a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission until 2016, for one of four vacant seats in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Indeed, Trump came into office with a chance to fill more than twice as many court vacancies as President Barack Obama had. Not all share her views on "judicial methodology", but they agreed she would be an "outstanding" federal judge. Tom Emmer and Jason Lewis, R-Minnesota, all predictably lauded Trump's decision, calling Stras, "one of Minnesota's foremost legal minds". "We plan to take full advantage of her judicial insights and contributions until she is finally confirmed by the United States Senate".

Minnesota also has two district court vacancies, which are considered "judicial emergencies" based on the bench's caseload.

Ilya Shapiro, senior fellow in constitutional studies at the Cato Institute, called the group an "excellent slate".

“Gun owners certainly welcome the courts becoming more “gun friendly” under a Trump presidency”, Pratt said.

Bush authored a Supreme Court brief in a high-profile case about race and public schools.

“Putting him on the Court of Federal Claims, which is the court that handles claims made against the federal government, that’s a great choice”, Mr. von Spakovsky said.

When it comes to judicial nominations, the president is best known for his home-run victory in his nomination and confirmation of Gorsuch.

With 120 such openings in the lower federal courts, critics say the Trump administration is behind in filling them.

While Senate Democrats do not have the judicial filibuster at their disposal – Majority Leader Harry Reid saw to that by invoking the nuclear option in 2013 – they are likely to slow the confirmation process by exploiting post-cloture debate *time* at a record level.

“We urge senators to use extreme caution and fully vet the backgrounds of the judicial nominees announced by President Trump today”.

The Heritage Foundation and The Federalist Society developed the list at Trump’s request.