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Kenric Ward: Hard left turn at court

By Kenric Ward (Contact) Tuesday, May 26, 2009

President Barack Obama's first selection for the Supreme Court is an old-fashioned liberal who favors blatant use of reverse racism -- i.e., "affirmative action."

Big surprise.

Sonia Sotomayor, a federal appeals judge, is "the most radical of all the frequently mentioned candidates," said Roger Pilon of the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank based in Washington.

Sotomayor, according to Cato, is best known for her decision in the Ricci v. DeStefano case in New Haven, Conn.

"The city didn't like the results of an officers promotion exam in which whites and Hispanic firefighters outperformed black firefighters. The city threw out the results of the exam, denying several firefighters promotions solely because of their race. The firefighters sued the city, claiming racial discrimination under Title VVI of the Civil Rights Act and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment," according to Cato.

Sotomayor ruled that the city had the right to discriminate against public employees, based on race, to construct a politically correct racial mix in hiring, even if it goes against the results of a racially neutral competency exam.

Ironically, her New Haven decision is on appeal before the U.S. Supreme Court. If Sotomayor gets to the high court, perhaps fellow travelers like Ruth Bader Ginsburg will help her out.

Thus far, Sotomayer has had her rulings reversed by the court four times. Three times, the court ruled she incorrectly interpreted the law.

Tipping her hand as a judicial activist, the first Hispanic nominee to the high court said at a Duke University panel discussion in 2005, the "court of appeals is where policy is made."

This should give senators lots to talk about at confirmation hearings.

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