

January 3, 1994

Dear Chief:

I was pleased by the story in the Post of January 2, in which you urged the President to fill vacant judicial seats - now totaling 113 federal judgeships.

As ever,

The Chief Justice

lfp/ss

Post Jan 2, 1994

enc 1/3/94

THE WASHINGTON POST

Rehnquist Urges Filling Judicial Seats

Some Federal Posts Vacant as Long as 4 Years, Chief Justice Notes

Associated Press

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist is urging President Clinton and the Senate to fill 113 vacant federal judgeships in 1994, including some that have gone unoccupied for the past four years.

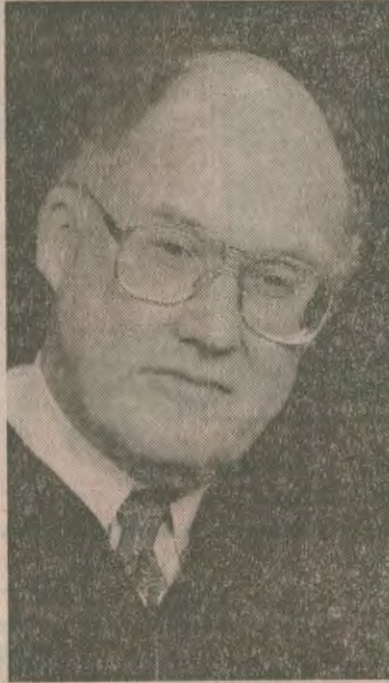
"There is perhaps no issue more important to the judiciary right now than this serious judicial vacancy problem," Rehnquist wrote in his year-end report on the federal courts released today.

"I hope that in the coming year the executive and legislative branches will take the necessary steps to fill these vacancies," he said.

The Senate confirmed 28 federal judges last year, but Rehnquist noted that the remaining vacancies represent more than 13 percent of all authorized judgeships. He said 64 of the 113 vacancies have existed for more than 18 months, "some as long as four years."

"Were it not for the dedication of our hard-working senior [semi-retired] judges, the courts would be addressing an even more serious backlog today," Rehnquist said.

The chief justice also said federal courts must continue to adjust to the demands of "an era of austerity."



WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

... courts face "an era of austerity"

"Just as now we have a clearer sense that federal budget resources are finite, we need also to recognize that the judicial machinery the budget supports is a scarce commodity," he said.

Rehnquist said that "doing justice" in the future will be based on "the greatest good for the greatest number, not simply on ... which litigant has the most resources, is

the most insistent or can best manipulate the system."

He said federal courts must provide more management of litigation, more control of lawyer and litigant choices, and more assurances that legal costs do not diminish too greatly the value of any recovery.

Greater fiscal responsibility, accountability and efficiency are needed, Rehnquist added.

"Our challenge will be to preserve the best of our current adversary system—and thereby do justice—while recognizing the new realities," he said.

"Undoubtedly, some of the changes that will come about as a result of these efforts will please neither judges, court employees nor the legal profession," Rehnquist said.

Congress can help by assuring that federal and state courts do not "work at cross purposes or irrationally duplicate one another," he said.

"Serious consideration should be given to providing greater assistance to the state courts ... rather than sweeping many newly created crimes, such as those involving juveniles and handgun murders, into a federal court system which is ill-equipped to deal with those problems and will increasingly lack the resources in this era of austerity," Rehnquist said.

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

March 4, 1994

March 18

I joined
in the celebra-
tion

L.P.

MEMORANDUM TO THE CONFERENCE

Nino will celebrate his birthday on March 11, and Ruth will celebrate her's on March 15. Let us follow the usual procedure and have wine in the Justice's Dining Room after Conference on Friday, March 18.

Sincerely,

Wm

cc: Chief Justice Burger, Ret.
Justice Powell, Ret.
Justice Brennan, Ret.
Justice White, Ret.
Harry Fenwick

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

May 9, 1994

MEMORANDUM TO THE CONFERENCE

Attached is a memo from the Marshal about the cost per capita of purchasing Harry's bench chair to give to him. I suggest we proceed by sending our checks in the amount of \$4.80 to the Marshal.

Sincerely,

Wm

*paid
5/9/94
✓*

cc: Chief Justice Burger
Justice White
Justice Brennan
Justice Powell

Enc.

Office of the Marshal
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

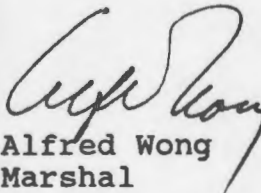
May 9, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF JUSTICE

SUBJECT: Bench Chair - Justice Blackmun

Assuming that the Court wishes to continue the tradition of presenting the bench chair to a retiring justice, the value of this used furniture has been placed at \$57.60.

Including retired Chief Justice Burger and Justices Brennan, Powell and White for a grand total of twelve [Conference (8)], the shared cost of each would be \$4.80. Checks should be made payable to the Supreme Court.


Alfred Wong
Marshal



Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

April 4, 1994

Dear Lewis:

The annual employees' service awards ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. on May 17, 1994 in the East Conference Room, with a reception following in the West Conference Room. Justice Brennan and Justice Blackmun are among those scheduled to receive service awards, and I invite you to join me in honoring them. Your messenger, Nathaniel Weldon, will also be receiving an award for 20 years of Supreme Court service.

Service awards will be presented to the Justices first. The entire ceremony, including the presentation of any special achievement or superior performance awards, will last about 15 minutes. I hope you will be able to attend for whatever time your schedule allows.

Sincerely,

Justice Powell (Ret.)

September 15, 1994

Dear Chief:

Thank you for your memorandum of September 12 about the customary plan to welcome new law clerks. This will done at a reception on Wednesday, September 28. Unfortunately I will be in Richmond sitting on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sincerely,

The Chief Justice

lfp/ss

The C. J.

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Ruth
Ginsberg

ginsberg

March 13, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO THE CONFERENCE

Ruth will celebrate her birthday on Friday, March 15th. Let us follow our usual procedure and have wine in the Justices' Dining Room after Conference on Friday, March 17th.

Sincerely,

WR

cc: ✓ Chief Justice Burger, Ret.
Justice Powell, Ret.
Justice Brennan, Ret.
Justice White, Ret.
Justice Blackmun, Ret.
Harry Fenwick

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

March 24

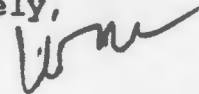
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March 20, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO THE CONFERENCE

Sandra will celebrate her birthday on Sunday, March 26th. Let us follow our usual procedure and have wine in the Justices' Dining Room after Conference on Friday, March 24th.

Sincerely,



cc: Chief Justice Burger, Ret.
Justice Powell, Ret.
Justice Brennan, Ret.
Justice White, Ret.
Justice Blackmun, Ret.
Harry Fenwick

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

*Rechned -
in Richmond*

September 7, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO: Harvey Rishikof
Tony Donnelly
Donna Clement
Gail Galloway
Toni House
Shelley Dowling
Mary Ann Willis
Bill Suter
Frank Wagner
Dale Bosley

Subject to contingencies, I suggest we welcome the new law clerks at a reception on Wednesday, September 27th at 4:00 p.m. in the Justices' Dining Room.

Sincerely,

Wm

RSVP - Janet Barnes

cc: Justice Brennan
Justice White
Justice Powell
Justice Blackmun

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

September 7, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO THE CONFERENCE

I propose that the annual welcoming reception for our new law clerks be held Wednesday, September 27th at 4:00 p.m. The reception will be in the Justices' Dining Room as usual and I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend.

Sincerely,



cc: Justice Brennan
Justice White
Justice Powell
Justice Blackmun

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

September 7, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO THE LAW CLERKS

On Wednesday, September 27th, at 3:40 p.m. I would like all of you to meet with me in the West Conference Room in order that I may acquaint you with your obligations with respect to security and confidentiality in your present positions.

Sincerely,



*The Chief Justice of the United States
the Associate Justices
and
The Supreme Court Historical Society*

*Request the honor of your presence
at a ceremony
to Unveil the Portrait
of
Justice Byron R. White
(Retired)*

*on
Monday, the thirteenth of November
at four o'clock*

*The West Conference Room
The Supreme Court of the United States*

*R.S.V.P.
202-543-0400*

*Reception
Following Ceremony*