

Supreme

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part, on a points system.

It had been expected that Chief Justice Rehnquist would resign at the close of this term, meaning there would be no ideological shift on the court because one conservative would be replacing another one. However, O'Connor's decision to step down and Rehnquist's decision to stay on, despite failing health, means many of the narrow 5-4 decisions in favor of civil rights might now go in the other direction.

"If it turns out to be, as one could reasonably expect, that Judge Roberts is not as pragmatic and not as moderate as Justice O'Connor, that one single vote could change the outcome in affirmative action and other race cases in the foreseeable future," said Ogletree.

Ted Shaw, president and director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, says the LDF will carefully examine Robert's record before taking a stand.

"The question of whether somebody's a conservative, that's not the only question," Shaw explained. "The question for me is what kind of conservative they are? Whether his nominees are going to be open-minded people or whether they're going to be hard, right ideologues whose minds are closed to the arguments of people who bring cases before the court."

Because Roberts has only two years of judicial experience on the D. C. District Court of Appeals, his record is skimpy. But some civil rights advocates say there is enough in the public record to cause alarm.

"With his nomination of Judge Roberts, Bush strikes another blow to America's public policy position, and he sets off a new phase of our struggle for an independent court which upholds the Constitution and protects civil rights and civil liberties," said Jesse Jackson Sr. "Supporters of voting rights, fair elections and judicial independence have much to fear."

Jackson points out that Roberts was one of the lawyers behind stopping the Florida vote count in the election debacle of 2000. An attorney at Hogan & Hartson, Roberts advised Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, the president's brother, during the election.

Berry points to another case in which Roberts appears adverse to civil rights.

As an associate counsel to President Ronald Reagan, Roberts assisted with Grove City College v. Bell, a Pennsylvania case in which



"In the history of the Supreme Court... most justices have done pretty much what you would have expected them to do, based on their backgrounds..."

— Mary Frances Berry
Professor University of Pennsylvania

Reagan agreed with the college that non-discrimination did not have to be enforced all over campus; only in the student aid office, Berry recounts.

After a Supreme Court ruling that affirmed the university's position, civil rights groups got the Civil Rights Restoration Act passed by Congress in 1987 so that if a college or university got federal money, universities would still have to enforce non-discrimination throughout the campus.

"He seemed to be in favor of the narrow definition at that time, based on the memo that he wrote," Berry said.

While Roberts has little judicial record, civil rights organizations have begun digging.

Roberts has issued only 40 opinions from the bench, giving little indication on how he views racial issues. But, according to People for the American Way, in the infamous case of *Hedgpeth v. Washington Metro Area Transit Authority*, Roberts issued an opinion that appeared insensitive to a 12-year-old girl arrested and handcuffed for eating a single french fry during a "zero tolerance" crackdown on eating and drinking by transit police on the subway two years ago.

"The child was searched, handcuffed, her shoelaces were removed, she was taken away in a windowless police vehicle, fingerprinted, and held for three hours until she was released into her mother's custody," PFAW reported.

The mother brought a civil rights action on behalf of her daughter, claiming that her daughter's Fourth and Fifth Amendment rights had been violated. She claimed that the child's equal protection rights had been violated because, under then-D.C. law, adults in the same situation would only have been given a citation, while juveniles had to be arrested.

"Judge Roberts's opinion (joined by Judges Karen LeCraft Henderson and Stephen Williams) affirmed the district court's ruling against the mother. Rejecting the equal protection claim, Roberts held that the law re-

quiring harsher treatment of juveniles was rationally related to 'the legitimate goal of promoting parental awareness and involvement with children who commit delinquent acts.'"

In response to the negative publicity surrounding the "one french fry" incident, the no-citation policy for juveniles was changed.

PFAW also reports that Roberts must be questioned closely on First Amendment issues. In 1990 when he was deputy solicitor general, he co-authored the government's brief in *United States v. Eichman*, contending that the Flag Protection Act of 1989, which criminalized flag burning, was constitutional.

"The First Amendment does not prohibit Congress... from removing the American flag as a prop available to those who seek to express their own views by destroying it," Roberts wrote. But, in a 5-4 ruling, the Supreme Court majority, including ultra conservative Justice Scalia, disagreed, holding that the law violated the First Amendment. "As the Court explained in striking down the law, '[punishing] desecration of the flag dilutes the very freedom that makes this emblem so revered, and worth revering.'" PFAW re-

ported.

Fortunately, Berry said, because O'Connor advocated a clause to revisit the University of Michigan law school decision in 25 years, it is highly unlikely the court will attempt to reverse affirmative action in higher education in the near future.

But there are cases of specific importance to Blacks that appear headed toward

the high court, said Shaw.

One is *Hayden v. Pataki*, a New York State felon disenfranchisement lawsuit in which the LDF is representing the rights of the plaintiff, a convicted felon fighting for his voting and other rights.

"It would be good if Black folk were to educate themselves as much as possible about this nominee and about the process," Shaw said.

"Right now, the challenge for the nation is to make sure that he gets a fair hearing, but that he doesn't get a free ride."

LEGAL NOTICES

LAS VEGAS-CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP NO. 06-01 JANITORIAL MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District is soliciting proposals from qualified and experienced contractors to provide janitorial maintenance services and supplies for various District facilities.

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE: The MANDATORY Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **Monday, August 1, 2005, 1:00 PM (PST)**, in the Multi-Purpose Room, at the Las Vegas Library, 833 Las Vegas Boulevard North, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101. The purpose of the Pre-proposal Conference is to review and discuss the specification documents for the Request for Proposals and to distribute the schedule for the MANDATORY walk-through of each facility included within the RFP. Walk-throughs will occur over two (2) days and are scheduled for Wednesday, August 3, 2005 and Thursday, August 4, 2005. To be eligible, Proposers are REQUIRED to attend the Pre-proposal Conference and the facility walk-throughs.

PROPOSAL OPENING: The Proposal opening will be held **Friday, August 19, 2005, 1:00 PM (PST)**, in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Las Vegas Library, 833 Las Vegas Boulevard North, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

Proposals will be received at the Reception Desk of the Las Vegas Library, 833 Las Vegas Boulevard North, Las Vegas Nevada 89101, on or before **1:00 PM (PST), Friday, August 19, 2005**. Proposals received at 1:01 PM (PST) or after will be returned unopened to the Proposer.

Proposers and other interested parties are invited to attend the Proposal opening.

Specification documents for the Request for Proposals will be available after 11:00 AM (PST), Monday, July 25, 2005, at the Reception Desk, Las Vegas Library, 833 Las Vegas Boulevard North, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

To request a faxed copy of this Request for Proposals notice, call the Clark County Fax on Demand System at (702) 455-5428 and request document #501.

Questions regarding this Request for Proposals may be directed to Stephen J. Rice, General Services Director, telephone number (702) 507-3740.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
LAS VEGAS-CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
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INVITATION FOR BID
Bid Number: 06-1530

PURCHASE OF DIESEL UTILITY CARTS

Documents pertinent to this advertisement may be examined and obtained between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. To request a copy of bid documents call (702) 892-2950, or visit our website purchasing.lvcva.com

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
Purchasing Department
Room A203
3150 Paradise Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Pre-Bid Conference: Tuesday, August 2, 2005, 9:00 A.M. at the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, Administrative Conference Room, 3150 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109.

Bid Opening: Tuesday, August 9, 2005, 2:00 P.M. at the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, Administration Conference Room, 3150 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109.

Sealed written bids must be received by the Purchasing Department, at the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority Central Purchasing Office, Second Floor, Room 203A, on or until 2:00 PM, PST, AUGUST 9, 2005. Bids will be accepted if date/time stamped 2:00 PM PST, date/time stamps of 2:01 PM PST or later will be rejected. Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud, immediately after the established closing time and date. Submittal by fax is not acceptable.

Note: This Invitation does not constitute an order for the goods or services specified. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of ninety (90) days after the actual date of the bid opening.

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EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED

The Las Vegas Valley Water District

MULTIPLE OPPORTUNITIES

WORK SCHEDULING ASSISTANT I

Pfirms specialized administrative support in the initiation & processing of wrk orders for maint & repair of mains, lines, meters & other District facilities & appurtenances.

Must have knlg of gen types of fld maint & repair wrk performed by a wrt util; basic trade & const terminology & wrk processes; practices & procedures used in wrk order processing & use of computers in maintaining work-in-progress database. Req's grad HS or GED equiv & 3 yrs increasingly resp office admin exp providing familiarity w/ trade & const work practices & procedures; or equiv combo of T&E.

Salary: \$17.82 hr + gen bnfts pkg. Filing Deadline: 8 am, Wed, 8/3/05.

MECHANICAL SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN II

Position located at the treatment facility, 243 Lake Shore Rd, Boulder City, NV (on Lake Mead approx 30 miles from LV).

Performs skilled, journey-level duties in design, const, install, modification, fabrication, maint, repair & servicing of sophisticated & complex mech systems & machinery used in treatment, storage, production & transmission of a potable water supply; performs basic maint & repairs to electrical systems & electronic control systems. Req's grad HS or GED & 2-yr's journey-level exp in install, maint & repair of pumping equip or equiv combo T&E. Valid NV driver's license Class B req'd at time of hire. NV State Health Div Water Treatment Operator I Cert & NV State Health Div Water Distribution Operator I Cert req'd within 1 yr of date of hire.

Salary: \$25.08 hr, + gen bnfts pkg. Filing Deadline: 8 am, Fri, 8/5/05.

The application package for any of the above positions may be obtained from: Las Vegas Valley Water District, Human Resources Dept., 1001 S. Valley View Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89153, or downloaded from our website at www.lvwwd.com. Faxes and resumes will not be accepted in lieu of the required application package.

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