

*Remarks for the
Supreme Court Appointments Press Conference
October 29, 2001*

Good morning. Today, I am announcing my appointments to fill the vacancies recently created on the Mississippi Supreme Court by the resignations of Justice Mike Mills and Justice Fred Banks.

Judge James E. Graves, Jr., will replace Justice Banks, and Judge George C. Carlson will replace Justice Mills.

I want the people of Mississippi to receive the justice promised by the constitution. These men make sure that happens.

Each of them has built a distinguished judicial career, and their qualifications are impeccable.

It is my responsibility as governor of this state to ensure that we have responsible, qualified and dedicated justices on our Supreme Court.

I believe I have fulfilled my responsibility with these appointments.

I'd like to offer Judge Graves and Judge Carlson an opportunity to make remarks.

(Judges speak)

Our government is built on a foundation of equal justice under law. That foundation is strong, and these judges will make sure it is never weakened.

We'd be glad to take any questions.