

**NEWS FROM
THE GRAND CHAPTER
KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC.®**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.® Urges Expeditious Nomination and Confirmation of U. S. Supreme Court Justice to Replace Justice Antonin Scalia

Philadelphia, PA – March 8, 2016 –The Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. is joining other organizations in urging the President and U. S. Senate to nominate and confirm a Justice to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia.

The sudden death of United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia created a vacancy on the court, and Article II, Section 2, Clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States specifically states the president “shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the senate, shall appoint...judges of the Supreme Court”. The expressed intent of the Constitution is self-evident and makes no reference to an “election year” exception, and since 1980 every person appointed to the court has been given a prompt hearing and vote within 100 days of the nomination and there are over 300 days left in the current president’s tenure.

The United States has only one President at a time, and the demand made by Republican candidates for the office that President Obama abdicate his constitutional duty to fill this vacancy and that the Senate should refuse to vote on his nominee would be contrary to the original intent of the Constitution and thus inconsistent with the principles of democracy. The President has indicated he will nominate a well-qualified person to fill this vacancy, and there is ample precedent for the confirmation of a Supreme Court Justice in an election year in that Justices Murphy, Cardozo, Clarke, Brandies, and Pitney were all confirmed in an election year and most recently, Justice Anthony Kennedy, nominated by President Ronald Reagan was confirmed by the senate on February 3, 1998, during an election year.

Waiting to fill this vacancy until after January 2017, would not only violate the clear intent of the Constitution, but would be clear and convincing evidence that the Constitution is being used as a weapon to denigrate the presidency of President Obama and as a tool to appease political ideologies of those who vowed to make him a one term president which was never the intent of Article II, Section 2, Clause 2 of the Constitution.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. calls on the President to expeditiously nominate a well-qualified person to fill this vacancy and further calls upon the Senate to fulfill its constitutional duty to vote on the nominee in a timely manner. According to Thomas L. Battles, Jr., president and CEO (Grand Polemarch), Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. requests its members across the nation to contact their respective United States Senators demanding that they obey the Constitution and vote expeditiously on the nomination presented to the Senate.

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Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. is an international organization founded on the campus of Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana on January 5, 1911. Since its inception, it has trained over 150,000 men, particularly undergraduates, for leadership roles in their communities and the attainment of a high degree of excellence in their academic pursuits. The International Headquarters is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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