History of Supreme Court Nominations

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The full text of *Supreme Court of the U.S. Hearings and Reports on Successful and Unsuccessful Nominations of Supreme Court Justices by the Senate Judiciary Committee* is the focal point of this library. It features full-text searching, beginning with three volumes devoted to the controversial confirmation of Louis Brandeis, the first nominee subject to public hearings. This ongoing series is considered to be the definitive documentary history of the nominations and confirmation process of both successful and unsuccessful nominations through Amy Coney Barrett.

Each nomination includes relevant materials, such as:

- Confirmation hearing and transcript on the nomination
- Senate Judiciary Committee vote on the nomination
- Memoranda drafted
- Presidential statements
- Resignation announcements
- Pre-nomination speculation
- Nomination announcement
- Confirmation date

If you’d like to further explore that process, HeinOnline’s History of Supreme Court Nominations collects an impressive array of primary and secondary sources. Those sources include this excellent CRS report on what goes into the President’s selection of a nominee. There are also helpful CRS reports on the rest of the process, including one on the nominee’s consideration by the Senate Judiciary Committee and another discussing the limitations and customs surrounding the questions Senators ask judicial nominees during confirmation hearings.

*Gerald Fowke, The Blackacre Times, February 1, 2022*

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