

# Justice O'Connor Seated On Nation's High Court

By LINDA GREENHOUSE  
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25 — Sandra Day O'Connor took her seat on the United States Supreme Court today. She became the 102d Justice and the first woman to serve on the High Court.

President Reagan, who fulfilled a campaign promise to name a woman to the Court by nominating the 51-year-old Arizona judge, attended the brief ceremony in the courtroom.

It was the first time a President had visited the Supreme Court since President Ford attended Associate Justice John Paul Stevens' swearing-in ceremony in 1975.

President Reagan and Judge O'Connor entered the courtroom simultaneously but from opposite sides a few minutes past 2 o'clock. Judge O'Connor was escorted to a ceremonial chair, in the well of the courtroom below the bench, that was used in the Court's early years by Chief Justice John Marshall. The eight members of the Court took their seats on the bench moments later.

The ceremony, formally known as an investiture, lasted barely 10 minutes. The courtroom was filled well beyond its 400-seat capacity with Judge O'Connor's family and friends and with Government officials, including a number of Senators. The Senate confirmed Judge O'Connor on Tuesday by a vote of 99 to 0.

Potter Stewart, whose retirement from the Court in July paved the way for today's event, watched from a seat at the side of the courtroom.

Attorney General William French Smith presented to the Court the official document, signed by President Reagan,

commissioning Judge O'Connor as an Associate Justice. Alexander L. Stevas, clerk of the Supreme Court, read the document aloud. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger then called Judge O'Connor up to the bench.

The Chief Justice administered the oath of office, which is identical with that taken by all Federal officials. Earlier, in the privacy of the Justices' conference room, Judge O'Connor had taken the separate oath that is administered to Federal judges, in which the new Justice swears to "administer justice without respect to persons, and do equal right to the poor and to the rich."

Charles Cornelison, the Court's chief deputy marshal, next helped Justice O'Connor on with the judicial robe she brought with her from the Arizona Court of Appeals.

Then the woman who, after she graduated near the top of her law school class 29 years ago was refused a job at every law firm to which she applied, took her place on the bench, the seat at the far end reserved for the most junior Justice.

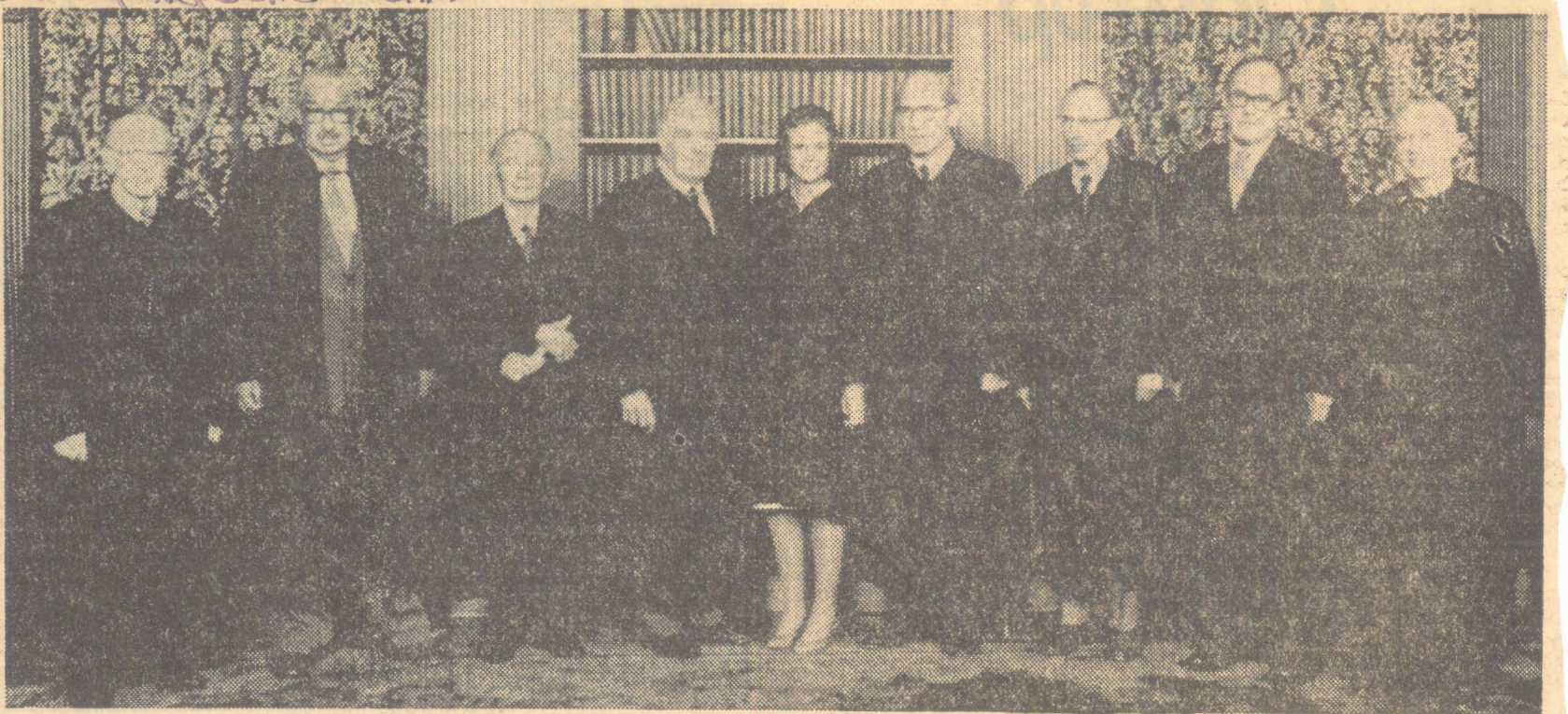
After swearing in the Court's new member, Chief Justice Burger said: "Justice O'Connor, welcome to the Court. I wish you a very long life and a long and happy career in our common calling."

After the ceremony, Justice O'Connor posed for pictures in a sunlit inner courtyard of the Supreme Court building. She was joined by the President and Mrs. Reagan; the Chief Justice and his wife, Elvire; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Day; her husband, John, and their three sons, Jay, Brian and Scott.

Supreme Court employees who had not been able to get seats in the courtroom waved from the windows, and the new Justice waved back.

There had been a similar "photo opportunity" on the Supreme Court steps at noon. Then Judge O'Connor was escorted by the Chief Justice, who remarked to the waiting photographers, "You've never seen me with a better-looking Justice, have you?"

Justice O'Connor's work begins almost immediately. On Monday, the Justices will begin a weeklong conference to decide the disposition of about 1,000 cases that have come into the Court since June. The term opens the next Monday, Oct. 5.



Justice Sandra Day O'Connor posing with the other Justices of the Supreme Court. From the left, Harry A. Blackmun, Thurgood Marshall, William J. Brennan Jr., Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, Justice O'Connor, Byron R. White, Lewis F. Powell Jr., William H. Rehnquist and John Paul Stevens.

## O'Connor seated: Robe's the same but the pink dress makes history

By Aaron Epstein  
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — After 101 men, there is a woman on the Supreme Court.

Sandra O'Connor, wearing a simple belted pink dress, arose yesterday afternoon from the chair used by the first chief justice, John Marshall, walked up to the high court bench, swore to defend the Constitution against all enemies, donned a black robe and made history.

She took the seat reserved for newcomers, next to her friend and fellow Arizonan, conservative Justice William Rehnquist.

From the vantage of President and Mrs. Reagan and more than 300 invited guests and reporters, O'Connor and Rehnquist sat on the far right of the justices' curved mahogany bench in the somber marble-

colored courtroom. The general public was excluded.

Chief Justice Warren Burger welcomed her and wished her "a long life and a long, happy career."

He then assigned her to supervise the federal courts in the 6th Circuit, which covers the states of Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee.

Two hours earlier, on the front plaza of the Supreme Court's Corinthian temple, O'Connor posed for photographers in the brilliant sunshine.

"You've never seen me with a better looking justice, have you?" the chief justice asked.

O'Connor apologized for the condition of her robe, which she had worn as a state trial and appellate judge in Arizona.

"I'll buy a new one eventually," she said. "They do get old, you know. The arms get all worn out."

Maybe Congress could appropriate some money, Burger suggested.

To some onlookers, the scene was life imitating art, a scene out of "First Monday in October," a current comic film about the first woman justice.

O'Connor, at 51, also is the youngest justice on a court dominated by men well past normal retirement age.

Five of the nine justices, appointed by Presidents Dwight Eisenhower, Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon, are over 70.

O'Connor, having won the confirmation plaudits of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the full Senate by votes of 17-0 and 99-0, will find

little unanimity among her new male colleagues on the most controversial issues of the day.

For years, the justices have been split, often with a single vote separating them, on cases involving school desegregation, affirmative action, abortion, state aid to religion, obscenity, government regulation and the death penalty.

A conservative on many issues, O'Connor is expected to make little difference in the court's fragile balance because she replaces the retired Potter Stewart, who voted conservatively on school busing, affirmative action, school prayer, health and safety regulations and other bitterly debated subjects.

### INTERNATIONAL

# Herald Tribune

THE WEATHER — PARIS: Saturday, rain. Temp. 13-20 (55-68). LONDON: Saturday, showers. Temp. 13-18 (55-64). CHANNEL: Moderate. ROME: Saturday, cloudy. 22-27 (72-81). FRANKFURT: Saturday, cloudy. Temp. 7-19 (45-66). NEW YORK: Saturday, cloudy. Temp. 13-20 (55-68).

ADDITIONAL WEATHER DATA — PAGE 14

Algeria.....5.00 Din.	Iran.....135 Rials	Nigeria.....100 K.
Austria.....15 S.	Israel.....U.S. 15.00	Norway.....4.50 N.Kr.
Bahrain.....0.600 Din.	Italy.....800 Lire	Oman.....0.650 Rials
Belgium.....30 Bfr.	Jordan.....400 Fil.	Portugal.....40 Esc.
Canada.....C\$ 1.10	Kuwait.....14.00	Saudi Arabia.....5.50 Rials
Cyprus.....400 Mills	Lebanon.....450 Fil.	Singapore.....70 Pias.
Denmark.....5.50 D.Kr.	Libya.....L.Din. 0.30	Sweden.....4.50 S.Kr.
Egypt.....85 P.	Luxembourg.....30 Lfr.	Switzerland.....1.80 S.Fr.
Finland.....4.50 F.M.	Madagascar.....45 Esc.	Tunisia.....0.425 Din.
France.....4.80 F.	Malta.....30 Cent.	Turkey.....T.L. 80.00
Germany.....2.00 D.M.	Morocco.....5.00 Dh.	U.S. Mil. (Eur.).....\$0.75
Greece.....40 Drs.	Netherlands.....2.25 Fl.	Yugoslavia.....35 D.

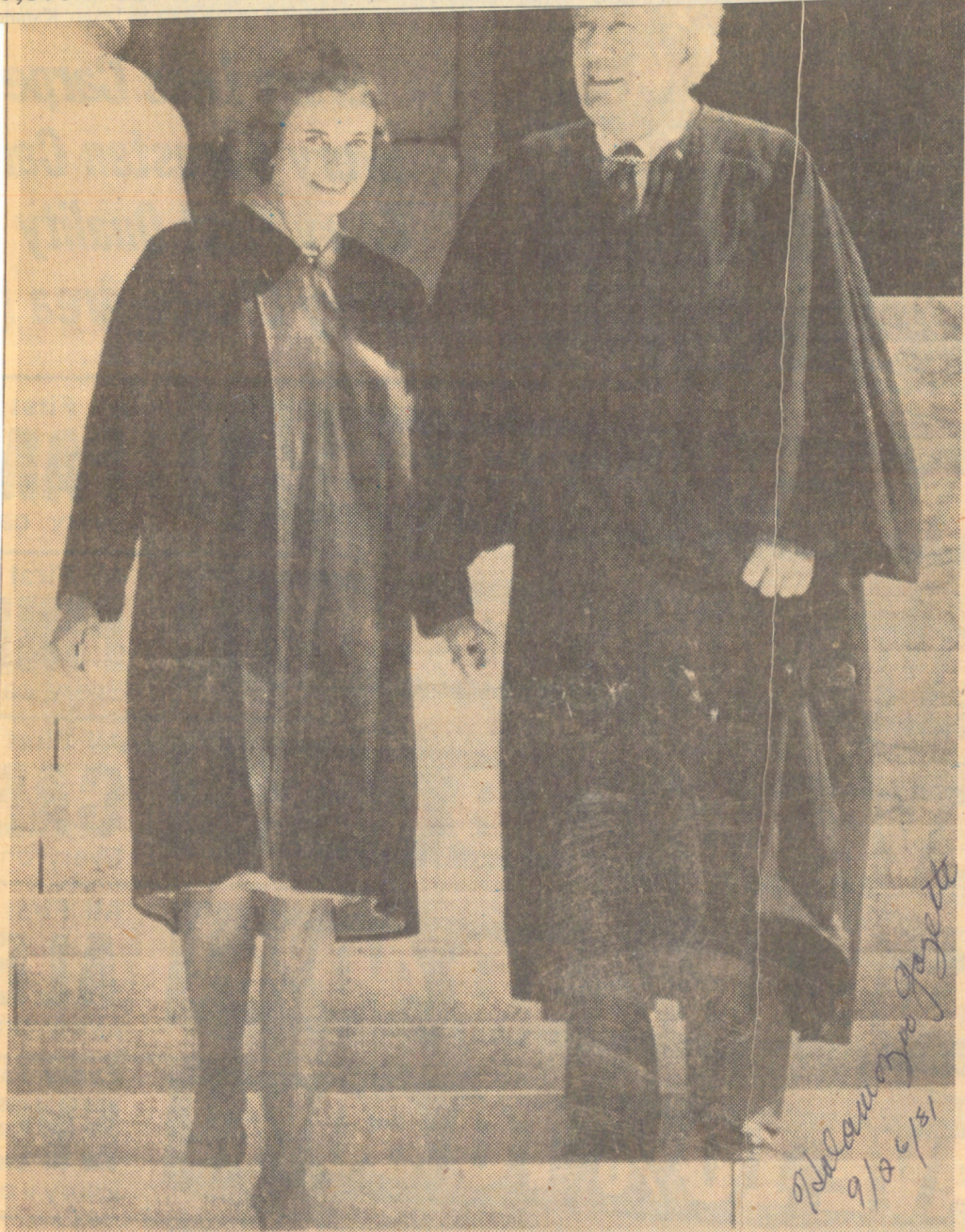
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Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Chief Justice Warren Burger on the steps of the Supreme Court after she was sworn in.

## The brethren & she

### Sandra O'Connor takes step into history

From AP and UPI

WASHINGTON — In a six-minute ceremony, Sandra Day O'Connor broke through two centuries of male exclusivity and donned her robe Friday as an associate justice of the Supreme Court.

With President Reagan, her family and 500 others watching, O'Connor stood beside Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and promised to "support and defend the Constitution" and faithfully carry out her duties.

"Justice O'Connor, welcome to the court," Burger said at the conclusion of the oath. "I wish you a long life and a long and happy career in our common calling."

O'Connor, who will be addressed by her brethren as "Justice O'Connor" — no courtesy title — was preceded by 101 men, dating to the court's founding in 1790.

The court's members were previously known as "Mr. Justice," as in "Mr. Justice Stewart." However, last November they dropped that title in favor of simply "Justice." It was assumed that the change anticipated the naming of the first woman to the high court.

EARLIER, O'CONNOR and her husband, Phoenix attorney John J. O'Connor III, rode with the president and first lady Nancy Reagan up Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House to the Supreme Court, just east of the Capitol.

The short ceremony started late, at 2:12 p.m. Sitting across from Justice O'Connor in the front of the courtroom were the Reagans, O'Connor's husband and O'Connor sons Scott, 23, Brian, 21, and Jay, 20. Nearby were her parents, Harry and Ada Mae Day.

See O'CONNOR, Page 11A

### O'Connor Joins U.S. High Court

Sandra Day O'Connor was sworn into office on Friday, becoming the U.S. Supreme Court's first woman justice and its 102d member. In the oath administered in Washington by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, at right, she vowed to "do equal right to the poor and to the rich." The 51-year-old former Arizona legislator and appeals court judge received Senate confirmation Monday.



The Associated Press

## She is now Justice O'Connor

O'CONNOR, from Page 1A

Next to the president was Potter Stewart, whose retirement last July 3 allowed Reagan to keep his campaign promise to nominate the first woman to the high court.

Following a court tradition, O'Connor took two oaths: the first a judicial oath in a private meeting of the justices and the second the constitutional oath before the giant pillars in the marble and mahogany courtroom.

O'Connor, 51, had earlier told news reporters that she felt "just great" about taking her place in history.

AFTER TAKING the oath, O'Connor was helped into her judicial robe and led to the seat traditionally occupied by the court's most junior

justice — to the far right of the bench as viewed from the courtroom.

O'Connor will sit next to Justice William H. Rehnquist, a friend, fellow Arizonan and Stanford University Law School classmate.

Burger ended the ceremonies by announcing that O'Connor will take over the supervisory duties of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which covers Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee. Stewart had previously held those duties.

O'Connor had served as an Arizona appeals court judge since late 1979. She previously served as a state court trial judge and majority leader in the Arizona Senate.

The Senate approved her nomination by a 99-0 vote Monday.