

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party

9th Circuit Court of Appeals Judges: Deconstructing the Political Party Affiliation

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Introduction: Understanding the Political Landscape of the 9th Circuit

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, encompassing nine western states, is the largest federal appellate court in the United States. Its judges, appointed for life, wield significant influence over the interpretation of federal law within its jurisdiction. The question of "9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges political party" is a crucial one, as it impacts perceptions of judicial impartiality and influences the court's decision-making processes. This article delves into the complexities of determining the political party affiliation of these judges and the methodologies employed to analyze its effects.

Methodologies for Assessing Political Party Affiliation

Determining the political party affiliation of 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges is not always straightforward. While the president nominating a judge typically considers their political affiliation, the process is not explicitly based solely on party loyalty. Several methodologies can be employed to ascertain this affiliation:

1. Presidential Nomination: The most direct indicator is the president who nominated the judge. Republican presidents generally nominate judges perceived as ideologically conservative, while Democratic presidents tend to nominate judges seen as liberal or moderate. However, exceptions exist, and a judge's record may deviate from the expected alignment.
1. Senate Confirmation Hearings: The Senate confirmation process offers valuable insights. During hearings, senators often probe a nominee's judicial philosophy, past legal experiences, and political leanings. Analyzing these transcripts can provide clues about a judge's potential ideological alignment, even if not explicitly stated as a partisan affiliation. The rhetoric surrounding the nomination itself often reflects the perceived political leanings of the nominee. Analyzing the level of opposition or support can offer further indication.
1. Voting Records: The most robust approach involves meticulously analyzing the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges' voting records across a variety of cases. By examining their decisions on specific legal issues, researchers can identify patterns consistent with either liberal or conservative judicial philosophies. This method, while labor-intensive, offers a more objective assessment than relying solely on presidential nominations. Quantitative analysis of these voting patterns using statistical methods like factor analysis can help uncover underlying ideological

dimensions.

1. Law Review Articles and Publications: Examining a judge's scholarly work, including law review articles and published opinions, can offer insights into their judicial philosophy and political perspectives. These publications often reflect the judge's underlying ideological viewpoints, providing further context for understanding their voting record.

1. Campaign Contributions and Political Activity: Although less direct, investigating judges' past campaign contributions (prior to appointment) and any involvement in political activities could indirectly reflect their political affiliations. However, this method should be used cautiously, as it could potentially introduce biases.

Analyzing the Impact of Political Party Affiliation

Even with various methodologies providing insight into the political party affiliation of 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges, it's critical to avoid oversimplification. A judge's rulings are influenced by numerous factors besides political affiliation, including legal precedent, their interpretation of the Constitution, and their personal judicial philosophies. While a judge's political leaning can predict tendencies in their voting patterns, it does not determine the outcome of every case.

Furthermore, the impact of "9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges political party" can manifest in different ways. For instance, judges with similar political backgrounds might still diverge on specific rulings due to differences in their judicial philosophies or interpretations of the law. Analyzing the degree of intra-party divergence is crucial for a nuanced understanding. Conversely, judges from different political parties might concur on particular issues, highlighting the complexities of judicial decision-making.

Case Studies and Empirical Evidence

Several empirical studies have examined the relationship between the political party affiliation of 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges and their decision-making. These studies often employ quantitative methods to analyze large datasets of judicial opinions, identifying patterns and correlations between judge characteristics and case outcomes. The findings from these studies often highlight a correlation, but seldom a direct causation between political affiliation and specific rulings.

The Importance of Transparency and Public Accountability

The topic of "9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges political party" emphasizes the importance of transparency in judicial appointments and the public's right to access information about the judicial process. Understanding the potential influence of political affiliation allows for informed public discussion and promotes accountability within the judiciary.

Conclusion

Determining the political party affiliation of 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges requires a multi-faceted approach combining various methodologies. While presidential nominations, Senate confirmation hearings, and voting records provide valuable clues, relying on a single method can be misleading. A comprehensive analysis necessitates examining multiple data points and accounting for the complexities of judicial decision-making. The influence of political affiliation on judicial rulings is a complex issue requiring careful consideration of various factors, and should not be oversimplified. Understanding this nuanced relationship contributes to a more informed discussion about the role of the judiciary in American society.

FAQs

1. How are 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judges appointed? Judges are nominated by the President

and confirmed by the Senate.

1. What is the term length for a 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judge? Judges serve for life, unless they resign or are impeached.

1. Does the political party of a president significantly influence the appointments to the 9th Circuit?
Yes, it is a significant factor, although not the sole determinant.

1. Are there any efforts to measure the ideological leanings of 9th Circuit judges objectively? Yes, scholars use quantitative methods like analyzing voting patterns on various cases.

1. How does the political composition of the 9th Circuit impact its decisions? It can influence the outcome of cases, though individual judicial philosophies also play a role.

1. What are the potential consequences of a heavily partisan 9th Circuit? It may lead to increased criticism of the court's decisions and raise concerns about impartiality.

1. What role does the American Bar Association play in the appointment process? The ABA provides ratings on judicial nominees, offering an independent assessment.
1. How can the public access information about the political affiliations and voting records of 9th Circuit judges? This information is available through public records and legal databases.
1. Are there any ongoing debates concerning the composition and influence of the 9th Circuit? Yes, the court's size and perceived ideological leanings are subjects of ongoing political debate.

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9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: United States Attorneys' Manual

United States. Department of Justice, 1985

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: *Violence 101* Denis Wright, 2010-10-14

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9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: The Grasping Hand Ilya Somin, 2015-05-28 In 2005, the Supreme Court ruled that the city of New London, Connecticut, could condemn fifteen residential properties in order to transfer them to a new private owner. Although the Fifth Amendment only permits the taking of private property for "public use," the Court ruled that the transfer of condemned land to private parties for "economic development" is permitted by the Constitution—even if the government cannot prove that the expected development will ever actually happen. The Court's decision in *Kelo v. City of New London* empowered the grasping hand of the state at the expense of the invisible hand of the market. In this detailed study of one of the most controversial Supreme Court cases in modern times, Ilya Somin argues that *Kelo* was a grave error. Economic development and "blight" condemnations are unconstitutional under both originalist and most "living constitution" theories of legal interpretation. They also victimize the poor

and the politically weak for the benefit of powerful interest groups and often destroy more economic value than they create. Kelo itself exemplifies these patterns. The residents targeted for condemnation lacked the influence needed to combat the formidable government and corporate interests arrayed against them. Moreover, the city's poorly conceived development plan ultimately failed: the condemned land lies empty to this day, occupied only by feral cats. The Supreme Court's unpopular ruling triggered an unprecedented political reaction, with forty-five states passing new laws intended to limit the use of eminent domain. But many of the new laws impose few or no genuine constraints on takings. The Kelo backlash led to significant progress, but not nearly as much as it may have seemed. Despite its outcome, the closely divided 5-4 ruling shattered what many believed to be a consensus that virtually any condemnation qualifies as a public use under the Fifth Amendment. It also showed that there is widespread public opposition to eminent domain abuse. With controversy over takings sure to continue, *The Grasping Hand* offers the first book-length analysis of Kelo by a legal scholar, alongside a broader history of the dispute over public use and eminent domain and an evaluation of options for reform.

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: Courtiers of the Marble Palace Todd C. Peppers, 2006 *Courtiers of the Marble Palace* explores how law clerks are hired and utilized by United States Supreme Court justices.

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: Judging Statutes Robert A. Katzmann, 2014-08-14 In an ideal world, the laws of Congress--known as federal statutes--would always be clearly worded and easily understood by the judges tasked with interpreting them. But many laws feature ambiguous or even contradictory wording. How, then, should judges divine their meaning? Should they stick only to the text? To what degree, if any, should they consult aids beyond the statutes themselves? Are the purposes of lawmakers in writing law relevant? Some judges, such as Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, believe courts should look to the language of the statute and virtually nothing else. Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit respectfully disagrees. In *Judging Statutes*, Katzmann, who is a trained political scientist as well as a judge, argues that our constitutional system charges Congress with enacting laws; therefore, how Congress makes its purposes known through both the laws themselves and reliable accompanying materials should be respected. He looks at how the American government works, including how laws come to be and how various agencies construe legislation. He then explains the judicial process of interpreting and applying these laws through the demonstration of two interpretative approaches, purposivism (focusing on the purpose of a law) and textualism (focusing solely on the text of the written law). Katzmann draws from his experience to show how this process plays out in the real world, and concludes with some suggestions to promote understanding between the courts and Congress. When courts interpret the laws of Congress, they should be mindful of how Congress actually functions, how lawmakers signal the meaning of statutes, and what those legislators expect of courts construing their laws. The legislative record behind a law is in truth part of its foundation, and therefore merits consideration.

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: Picking Federal Judges Sheldon Goldman, 1999-09-01 How does a president choose the judges he appoints to the lower federal bench? In this analysis, a leading authority on lower federal court judicial selection tells the story of how nine presidents over a period of 56 years have chosen federal judges.

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guideline-determinate, and capital. The materials draw on the full spectrum of legal institutions, from the U.S. Supreme Court To The state court level, with close consideration of the role of legislatures and sentencing commissions. The only current, full-course text on sentencing, this new title offers: an 'intuitive', conceptually-based organization that looks at the essential substantive components and procedural steps following the sequence of decisions that typically occurs in every criminal sentencing examples covering three distinct areas of sentencing, with chapter materials based on guideline-determinate, indeterminate, and capital sentencing materials from a range of institutions, including decision from the U.S. Supreme Court, state high courts, federal appellate courts, and some foreign jurisdictions - along with statutes and guideline provisions, and reports from various sentencing commissions and agencies in-text notes on sentencing policies that explain common practices in U.S. jurisdictions, then ask students to compare different institutional practices and consider the relationship between sentencing rules, politics, And The broader aims of criminal justice

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: The Conservative Assault on the Constitution Erwin Chemerinsky, 2010-09-28 Over the last few decades, the Supreme Court and the federal appellate courts have undergone a dramatic shift to the right, the result of a determined effort by right-wing lawmakers and presidents to reinterpret the Constitution by reshaping the judiciary. Conservative activist justices have narrowed the scope of the Constitution, denying its protections to millions of Americans, exactly as the lawmakers who appointed and confirmed these jurists intended. Basic long-standing principles of constitutional law have been overturned by the Rehnquist and Roberts courts. As distinguished law professor and constitutional expert Erwin Chemerinsky demonstrates in this invaluable book, these changes affect the lives of every American. As a result of political pressure from conservatives and a series of Supreme Court decisions, our public schools are increasingly separate and unequal, to the great disadvantage of poor and minority students. Right-wing politicians and justices are dismantling the wall separating church and state, allowing ever greater government support for religion. With the blessing of the Supreme Court, absurdly harsh sentences are being handed down to criminal defendants, such as life sentences for shoplifting and other petty offenses. Even in death penalty cases, defendants are being denied the right to competent counsel at trial, and as a result innocent people have been convicted and sentenced to death. Right-wing politicians complain that government is too big and intrusive while at the same time they are only too happy to insert the government into the most intimate aspects of the private lives of citizens when doing so conforms to conservative morality. Conservative activist judges say that the Constitution gives people an inherent right to own firearms but not to make their own medical decisions. In some states it is easier to buy an assault rifle than to obtain an abortion. Nowhere has the conservative assault on the Constitution been more visible or more successful than in redefining the role of the president. From Richard Nixon to George W. Bush, conservatives have sought to significantly increase presidential power. The result in recent years has been unprecedented abuses, including indefinite detentions, illegal surveillance, and torture of innocent people. Finally, access to the courts is being restricted by new rulings that deny legal protections to ordinary Americans. Fewer lawsuits alleging discrimination in employment are heard; fewer people are able to sue corporations or governments for injuries they have suffered; and even when these cases do go to trial, new restrictions limit damages that plaintiffs can collect. The first step in reclaiming the protections of the Constitution, says Chemerinsky, is to recognize that right-wing justices are imposing their personal prejudices, not making neutral decisions about the scope of the Constitution, as they claim, or following the original meaning of the Constitution. Only then do we stand a chance of reclaiming our constitutional liberties from a rigid ideological campaign that has transformed our courts and our laws. Only then can we return to a constitutional law that advances freedom and equality.

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involved, and argues that American lawyers and judges have acted jointly to make the legal system progressively require the work of legal professionals, an outcome that has become possible by sanctifying the Constitution in a way that allows them to paint opposition to their decisions as sacrilegious.

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9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: The Judicial Branch Cambridge Educational (Firm), 2009-10-28 September 24th, 1789 - the First United States Congress establishes the basic structure of the Federal Judiciary. With this act, the American legal system becomes an entity entwined with our fundamental notions of democracy and fair government, equal in power and authority to the Executive and Legislative branches. This program guides viewers through the history of the Judiciary and illustrates how it works in theory and practice. Topics include the main purposes of the Judicial branch - specifically, interpreting the law, determining if laws are unconstitutional, and applying the law to individual cases; the various divisions and levels of courts, such as lower, appellate, and specialized courts; the unique powers of the Supreme Court; summaries of famous Supreme Court cases; and more.

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: Are Judges Political? Cass R. Sunstein, David Schkade, Lisa Ellman, 2007-02-01 Over the past two decades, the United States has seen an intense debate about the composition of the federal judiciary. Are judges activists? Should they stop legislating from the bench? Are they abusing their authority? Or are they protecting fundamental rights, in a way that is indispensable in a free society? Are Judges Political? cuts through the noise by looking at what judges actually do. Drawing on a unique data set consisting of thousands of judicial votes, Cass Sunstein and his colleagues analyze the influence of ideology on judicial voting, principally in the courts of appeal. They focus on two questions: Do judges appointed by Republican Presidents vote differently from Democratic appointees in ideologically contested cases? And do judges vote differently depending on the ideological leanings of the other judges hearing the same

case? After examining votes on a broad range of issues--including abortion, affirmative action, and capital punishment--the authors do more than just confirm that Democratic and Republican appointees often vote in different ways. They inject precision into an all-too-often impressionistic debate by quantifying this effect and analyzing the conditions under which it holds. This approach sometimes generates surprising results: under certain conditions, for example, Democrat-appointed judges turn out to have more conservative voting patterns than Republican appointees. As a general rule, ideology should not and does not affect legal judgments. Frequently, the law is clear and judges simply implement it, whatever their political commitments. But what happens when the law is unclear? Are Judges Political? addresses this vital question.

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: Introduction to French Law E. Picard, G. Bermann, 2008-03-18 Introduction to French Law is a very practical book that makes clear sense out of the complex results of the complex bodies of law that govern the most important fields of law and legal practice in France today. Seventeen chapters, each written by a distinguished French legal scholar, cover the following field in substantive and procedural detail, with lucid explanations of French law in the fields such as Constitutional Law , European Union Law, Administrative Law, Criminal Law , Property Law , Intellectual Property Law , Contract Law , Tort Liability, Family Law, Inheritance Law , Civil Procedure, Company Law, Competition Law , Labour Law , Tax Law and. Private International Law

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: The Parties in Court Robert C. Wigton, 2013-12-11 American political parties have long existed in a gray area of constitutional law because of their uncertain status. Parties in this country are neither fully public nor fully private entities. This constitutional ambiguity has meant that political parties are considered private organizations for some purposes and public ones for others. This "public-private entity" problem has arisen in many different legal contexts over the years. However, given their case-by-case method of judicial review, courts have typically dealt with only very discrete parts of this larger problem. This work is an endeavor to describe and analyze the constitutional status of political parties in this country by synthesizing the best judicial and scholarly thinking on the subject. In the final chapter, I draw on these ideas to propose my own scheme for how political parties might be best accommodated in a democracy.

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: Manual of Model Criminal Jury Instructions Ninth Circuit Jury Instructions Committee, 2013-06-14 This Manual of Model Criminal Jury Instructions (Manual) has been prepared to help judges communicate more effectively with juries.

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: The Tenth Justice Lincoln Caplan, 1987 Of all the nation's public officials, the Solicitor General is the only one required by statute to be learned in the law. Although he serves in the Department of Justice, he also has permanent chambers in the Supreme Court. The fact that he keeps offices at these two distinct institutions underscores his special role.

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9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: *Record* , 1997

9th circuit court of appeals judges political party: *Civil Appeals* Michael Burton, 2011-12-01
Any practitioner faced with the decision as to whether to appeal, or who has questions arising at each stage, will benefit enormously from a book that examines the law, principles, procedures, and processes involved. This leading work has been updated and restructured, to ensure it provides guidance on the complete and complex process of making a civil appeal. Clearly written and cross referenced, the books UK/European coverage of appeals includes: -- District Judges to Circuit Judges in the County Court -- Masters and District Judges to High Court Judges -- Court of Appeal -- House of Lords -- Privy Council -- The European Court -- The European Court of Human Rights -- Administrative Law and Elections

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Additional Resources

What do we call the “rd” in “3rd” and the “th” in “9th”?

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Meaning of "by" when used with dates – inclusive or exclusive

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What does “rising senior” mean and what countries use it?

In my experience, in addition to high school 11th and 12th graders being called juniors and seniors, high school 9th graders and 10th graders (14-16 years old) are also known as ...

meaning - How should "midnight on..." be interpreted? - English ...

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To some extent, it depends on the font you are using and how accessible its special features are. If you can do full typesetting, then you probably want to make the th part look different from the ...

punctuation - Use of "e.g." – are parentheses necessary? - English ...

Oct 21, 2012 · Is it appropriate to use "e.g." in a sentence without using parentheses? This administrative access control should provide visibility into access via multiple vectors (e.g. ...

prepositions - 'Next Monday' or 'on next Monday'? - English ...

Dec 2, 2011 · Both "next Monday" and "on next Monday" can be used, but they have slightly different connotations. Next Monday: This phrase is commonly used and means the Monday ...

etymology - What comes after (Primary,unary),(secondary,binary ...

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What do we call the “rd” in “3rd” and the “th” in “9th”?

Aug 23, 2014 · @WS2 In speech, very nearly always. In writing, much less so. I think what may be going on is that one just assumes that “June 1” is pronounced “June First”, or “4 July” as ...

Why doesn't "ninth" have an "e", like "ninety"?

Feb 25, 2017 · For instance in "The coronation of Edgar [the peaceful]" (a poem from the Anglo Saxon chronicles, composed at the end of the... 9th century) one can read: OE: Ond him ...

How did "September" shift from 7th month to 9th month of a ...

Oct 25, 2018 · According to the OED, the switch from month number 7 to 9 was made well before English was even a language: The ancient Roman calendar (dating from around the mid 8th ...

Meaning of "by" when used with dates - inclusive or exclusive

Aug 28, 2014 · If, in a contract for example, the text reads: "X has to finish the work by MM-DD-YYYY", does the "by" include the date or exclude it? In other words, will the work delivered on ...

What does "rising senior" mean and what countries use it?

In my experience, in addition to high school 11th and 12th graders being called juniors and seniors, high school 9th graders and 10th graders (14-16 years old) are also known as ...

meaning - How should "midnight on..." be interpreted? - English ...

Dec 9, 2010 · By most definitions, the date changes at midnight. That is, at the precise stroke of 12:00:00. That time, along with 12:00:00 noon, are technically neither AM or PM because AM ...

"20th century" vs. "20th century" - English Language & Usage ...

To some extent, it depends on the font you are using and how accessible its special features are. If you can do full typesetting, then you probably want to make the th part look different from the ...

punctuation - Use of "e.g." — are parentheses necessary? - English ...

Oct 21, 2012 · Is it appropriate to use "e.g." in a sentence without using parentheses? This administrative access control should provide visibility into access via multiple vectors (e.g. ...

prepositions - 'Next Monday' or 'on next Monday'? - English ...

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