



Judge Amy Coney Barrett



Judge Barbara Lagoa



Judge Joan Larsen

THE SHORT LIST

President Trump has narrowed his search for a new Supreme Court justice to a handful of women. These are the top contenders:

Judge Amy Coney Barrett

Age: 48

Ethnicity: White

Religion: Catholic

Education: Notre Dame Law School

Home state: Indiana

Current job: Judge on the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals

Career highlights:

- She clerked for Justice Antonin Scalia after she graduated from law school.
- She taught at Notre Dame Law School, her alma mater, before joining the federal bench.
- Her faith became a sticking point during her confirmation hearing in 2017 when Democrats questioned her ability to separate her church's pro-life teaching from her judicial responsibilities.
- The Senate confirmed her to the 7th Circuit by a 55-43 vote.
- She made Mr. Trump's nomination short list in 2018 after the retirement of Justice Anthony M. Kennedy.

Judge Barbara Lagoa

Age: 52

Ethnicity: Hispanic

Religion: Catholic

Home state: Florida

Upbringing: Born in Miami to parents who fled Fidel Castro's Cuba

Education: Columbia Law School

Current job: Judge on the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals

Career highlights:

- She worked as a pro bono attorney for Elian Gonzalez's family in an international custody and immigration battle in 2000 after the U.S. returned the boy to Cuba.
- She was assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida from 2003 to 2006.

■ She was appointed to Florida's 3rd District Court of Appeal by Gov. Jeb Bush in 2006.

■ She became the first Hispanic woman to serve on the Florida Supreme Court after her appointment in early 2019 by Gov. Ron DeSantis.

■ Mr. Trump nominated her for the 11th Circuit later in 2019.

■ The Senate confirmed her in November 2019 by an 80-15 vote.

Judge Joan Larsen

Age: 51

Ethnicity: White

Education: Northwestern University School of Law

Home state: Michigan

Current job: Judge on the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals

Career highlights:

- She clerked for Judge David B. Sentelle at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.
- She clerked for Justice Antonin Scalia at the Supreme Court.
- She was deputy assistant attorney general in the Justice Department's office of legal counsel in 2002 and 2003.
- She was a professor at the University of Michigan Law School.
- She was an associate justice of the Michigan Supreme Court from 2015 to 2017.
- In the 2016 Michigan Supreme Court case of Green Party presidential nominee Jill Stein seeking an election recount, Judge Larsen recused herself, citing her inclusion on Mr. Trump's list of potential Supreme Court nominees.
- Mr. Trump nominated her to the 6th Circuit in 2017.
- The Senate confirmed her for the 6th Circuit by a 60-38 vote.

Judge Allison Jones Rushing

Age: 38

Ethnicity: White

Upbringing: North Carolina

Education: Duke University School of Law

Current job: Judge on the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals

Career highlights:

- She clerked for Justice Clarence Thomas at the Supreme Court.
- She clerked for Justice Neil M. Gorsuch when he was on the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
- She has ties to Alliance Defending Freedom, a conservative religious liberty law firm, where she interned and spoke at events as recently as 2017.
- Her association with ADF invites criticism from LGBTQ advocates. The group brought high-profile cases to the Supreme Court, including its representation of a Christian baker who refused to bake a cake for a same-sex wedding.
- The Senate confirmed her for the 4th Circuit by a 53-44 vote.

Kate Todd

Ethnicity: White

Education: Harvard Law School

Home state: Virginia

Current job: Deputy assistant to the president and deputy counsel to the president

Career highlights:

- She served as senior vice president and chief counsel for the U.S. Chamber Litigation Center.
- She was a partner at the law firm of Wiley Rein & Fielding.
- She clerked for Justice Clarence Thomas at the Supreme Court.
- She worked as an adjunct law professor at Cornell University in Washington and the George Washington University Law School.