



**Republican Black Caucus (RBC)**

4716 LEEHIGH COURT - SUITE 3 - FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030-5636

**The Nomination of Judge Clarence Thomas as an Associate  
Justice on the Supreme Court of the United States**

Testimony of

**Dr. George C. Dumas  
National Chairman  
Republican Black Caucus (RBC)**

Before

**United States Senate  
Committee on the Judiciary  
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
Chairman**

on

**Friday, September 20, 1991**

MR. CHAIRMAN, members of the Committee on the Judiciary, my name is Dr. George Dumas, national chairman of the Republican Black Caucus (RBC). We, the members of the Republican Black Caucus, would like to place in the

- 2 -

record, our organization's unanimous support of the nomination of Judge Clarence Thomas, for confirmation as an associate Justice on the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mr. Chairman and members of this committee and each member of the full Senate, we respectfully request each of you to fully support the confirmation of this great American, one of America's brightest and most devoted public servants. Our country needs his experience, his wisdom, his judicial and constitutional expertise as well as his ability to rise above politics of party, race, sex, religion or national origin.

In our opinion, Judge Clarence Thomas is a national role model. A splendid example of accomplishments despite insurmountable odds.

His life mirrors my life. I was born in Eupora, Mississippi, where picking cotton was a way of life. During my early childhood, my parents moved our family to East St. Louis, Illinois and shortly after arriving there, they separated. My mother struggled to rear and educate four children on welfare, which at that time was called, Aid to Dependent Children (ADC).

- 3 -

By the grace of God, hard work, self help, education, church and community role models such as black ministers, doctors, lawyers, business leaders and teachers, that lived in our community, we succeeded against the odds. Today, I am a successful entrepreneur. Because of his background, I can identify with Judge Clarence Thomas.

Some past national role models that immediately come to mind are Presidents Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, all great men. President Abraham Lincoln is credited with abolishing slavery. Today, Abraham Lincoln is honored as one of our country's greatest Presidents.

President John F. Kennedy said, " Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country. " Judge Clarence Thomas is reviving that spirit of service ignited by President Kennedy.

Over 24 years ago, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Judge Thurgood Marshall, a truly great American, to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Today, President George W. Bush has nominated Judge Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court of the United States. President Bush continues that tradition of recognizing the best person for the position, by nominating Judge Thomas.

- 4 -

Each of these Presidents dared to dream great dreams and they dared to be different. Their ability to dream great dreams, and stand by their commitments to see their dreams become a reality is the essence of the elements that have made **America great**. Judge Thomas also dares to dream great dreams and to be different.

Our nation owes these great Presidents and the great Justice Thurgood Marshall much gratitude. Our United States Senate owes President George Bush a vote of confirmation of Judge Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court of the United States.

An ABC poll presented last monday night ( Sept 16, 1991 ) revealed that 63 % of all Americans approve of confirmation of Judge Clarence Thomas including 61 % of African Americans and 61 % of women. This is an approval rating increase of 5 to 7 percentage points for African Americans.

Mr. Chairman and members of this committee and the full Senate, you have heard a great volume of testimony in favor and against this nomination. Some individual testimony has caused confusion. However, the central issue is that the President of the United States has nominated Judge

- 5 -

Thomas, a highly qualified jurist, of high moral character, with integrity and independence. We do not know why some people are against him.

We do not now need to know how he will vote in the future. The fact is the American people approve of his confirmation as indicated by the latest ABC poll. We ask each of you to vote to confirm this great American Judge, this positive role model for our nation. We, the members of the Republican Black Caucus (RBC), thank you for this opportunity to testify before you during these historical proceedings.

**God bless Judge Thomas;**

**God bless this Committee and the full Senate;**

**God bless the President of the United States; and**

**God bless America.**