

# Biden rolls out 1st slate of judicial nominees

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE AND JESSICA GRESKO  
The Associated Press

President Joe Biden on Tuesday nominated a racially diverse and overwhelmingly female group to federal and other judgeships, including three Black women for the U.S. courts of appeals, one pathway to the Supreme Court.

Biden promised as a candidate to nominate an African American woman to serve on the nation's highest court should a seat open up during his term.

With the announcement of his first slate of judicial nominees, Biden signaled his intent to counter his predecessor's reliance on white men to fill openings on the federal bench, and to appoint judges who bring a broader range of background and life experi-

ence to the role.

Biden's group includes candidates who, if confirmed by the U.S. Senate for lifetime federal appointments, would be the first Muslim federal judge in U.S. history, the first Asian American Pacific Islander woman to serve on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and the first woman of color to serve as a federal judge for the District of Maryland.

Three of the picks are Black women whom Biden wants for the federal courts of appeals, often a stepping stone to the Supreme Court. The most prominent of the trio is U.S. District Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, whom Biden is nominating to the seat left vacant on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit by Judge Merrick Garland's departure

to become Attorney General.

The two other Black women Biden wants for the appellate circuit are Tiffany Cunningham, 44, for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, based in Washington, and Candace Jackson-Akiwumi, 41, for the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Both are in private practice.

The D.C. Circuit, in particular, is a place where presidents have searched for Supreme Court justices. Three of the high court's current nine members have served on the D.C. Circuit.

Some liberal Democrats have urged Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, who is 82, to retire to allow Biden to choose a possible replacement. Jackson, 50, is a graduate of Harvard Law School and previously served as a law

clerk to Breyer.

Other Black women who would be front-runners if a spot on the U.S. Supreme Court were to open are California Supreme Court Justice Leandra Kruger and U.S. District Judge Michelle Childs. Childs is a favorite of Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., who made a crucial endorsement of Biden just before the state's presidential primary last year.

Some of Biden's candidates had been tapped for judgeships by Democratic President Barack Obama, but Republicans never allowed the full Senate to vote on them.

"This trailblazing slate of nominees draws from the very best and brightest minds of the American legal profession," Biden, a former Senate Judiciary Committee chair, said in a statement.



Kevista Coffee Shop, at 130 SW Century Drive in Bend, has been hit with a \$27,470 fine by state regulators over disregarding COVID-19 rules.

## Fine

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"In one of the violations, the company willfully continued to potentially expose workers to the virus, despite a public health order limiting the capacity of indoor dining to zero in an 'extreme risk' county," Oregon OSHA said.

OSHA inspected the coffee shop after multiple complaints from the public. Regulators said Kevista offered indoor dining from Dec. 3 when Deschutes County was in the extreme risk category for COVID-19 cases.

The Lauingers told Oregon OSHA they were aware of the rules to close all business to in-person dining but chose to remain open. Signs on the door explained to the public that the store was engaged in a "peaceful protest."

The penalty imposed by OSHA is three times the minimum penalty for such a violation. OSHA said the decision to impose the stiff penalty is to deter employers from disregarding health and safety standards.

Allowing customers to sit inside when cases of COVID-19 were at extreme levels put employees at risk and enabled the employer to achieve a competitive advantage over businesses that comply with the requirements, OSHA said in its statement.

Prior to the Oregon OSHA intervention, the Deschutes County Health Department attempted repeatedly to educate the Kevista owners on proper COVID-19 safety protocols, said the department's director, Dr. George A. Conway.

"We received calls from concerned patrons complaining about this business due to lack of mask wearing and COVID-19 prevention measures," said Conway. "When a business such as Kevista doesn't take precautions to prevent COVID-19 spread, it's really disheartening, and may not reflect well on similar businesses."

The fines are starting to stack up for the rogue coffee brewer. In July, Kevista was issued an \$8,900 citation for willfully failing to enforce rules around mask wearing. That case is currently under appeal.

Oregon OSHA Administrator Michael Wood said in a prepared statement that most employers around the state have complied with state COVID-19 regulations on businesses.

"As for the vocal few who insist on defying standards and putting their workers at risk, we will continue to bring our enforcement tools to bear," said Wood.

OSHA's fine was broken down into three violations. The fines included \$26,700 for disregarding capacity limitations while Deschutes was in the extreme risk category; a \$385 fine for failing to implement an infection control plan; and a \$385 fine for failing to conduct an assessment to identify potential employee exposure to the virus.

Kevista did not respond to a request for comment from The Bulletin. The company, which is registered as Laui Life Coffee LLC, has 30 days to appeal the citation.

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## Costa

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Born in 1944, Costa grew up in Ossining, New York, about 35 miles north of New York City. He attended Georgetown University for one year before transferring to Villanova University, where he received his bachelor's degree.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1969, including one tour in Vietnam as a 1st lieutenant.

After this he began a 20-year career at the St. Petersburg Times newspaper, where he eventually became deputy managing editor and led a team that won a Pulitzer Prize for local reporting in 1985.

Costa eventually did a one-year stint as a Michigan Journalism Fellow at the University of Michigan, where he found his passion and love for community journalism, said Gordon Black, the former publisher of The Bulletin.

Shortly after the fellowship, Black hired Costa to be executive editor of the paper at

which he worked, the Idaho Statesman.

"He had hard news in his blood," Black said. "He was very professional at every level, but at the same time very personable."

When Black was hired to be the president of Western Communications, which owned The Bulletin at the time, Black again hired Costa in 1997, this time as the editor-in-chief of The Bulletin.

"We enjoyed what we did. We worked hard together, and we had a lot of fun at the same time," Black said. "Even in the worst of times, we laughed a lot."

Costa became president of Western Communications and publisher of The Bulletin in 2015, leaving behind the editor-in-chief position he had occupied since 1997.

Costa occupied leadership positions at The Bulletin as its parent company filed for bankruptcy twice, once in 2011 and again in 2019. He retired in March of 2019, six months before Western Com-

munications was dissolved and The Bulletin was purchased by EO Media group.

"We were quite lucky to have him," said Betsy McCool, former chairwoman of the Western Communications board. "He was an exceptional editor and brought the paper forward as much as he could, given how much was going on with the newspaper industry."

McCool recalled Costa as honest and forthright, someone who, if he said something, "you knew he meant it," she said.

He was an avid reader, McCool said, and always had a hardback book in hand when they would meet for coffee. She said he was a joy to work with, and as an editor was the right fit for the community as a moderate, open-minded man.

"He knew community journalism very well," she said. "He knew how to be the member of a community while being an editor."

Julie Johnson, The Bulletin's city editor, who worked with

Costa since being hired by The Bulletin in 1999, remembers him as someone who loved newspapers and the people who made them.

"As an editor, he excelled at cajoling reporters into digging deeper, often to the discomfort of the reporter and the source at the other end of their questions," Johnson wrote in a statement. "He was a champion of higher education and government transparency, and a believer in Bend. He was not always well liked for his decisions. But if you worked with John, you respected him."

Survivors include his wife, Denise B. Costa, and his three children, Anthony Costa and his wife, Allyson Costa, of Nyack, New York; Timothy Costa and his wife, Jennifer Costa, of Beaverton; and Claire Costa Foley and her husband, Timothy Joseph Foley, Jr., of Richmond, Virginia. He is also survived by his five grandchildren.

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## OBITUARY

### Julia Cornish

December 4, 1933 - March 3, 2021

Julia Cornish (Mamma Bear) passed away March 3, 2021. Services will be held at Christian Life Center, 21720 Central Oregon Bend Or. on Wednesday March 31st at 2:00 pm. Fellowship following, for more information contact 318-315-1390 or 337-348-9431.

## OBITUARY

### Lyla Ollerenshaw

February 23, 1944 - March 21, 2021

Receiving a hand-crafted photo greeting card from Lyla Ollerenshaw was a reflection of her love of Central Oregon. She died March 21 of congestive heart failure at age 77.

Lyla Jean was the youngest of three daughters born Feb. 23, 1944, to Lyle and Clara (Trachsels) Smith in what is now known as Aloha, Oregon. She graduated from Sunset High School.

She worked many years as a sign painter for PayLess Drug Stores in Salem and on the opening crew of the Redmond store in 1979. She and her husband, Gary, whom she married on Nov. 26, 1979, in Bend, owned and operated Xpress Lubes in Redmond and Bend from 1996 until 2006 when she retired.

Besides crafting greeting cards, Lyla enjoyed sewing and flower gardening. She was a lifetime cat lover and benefactor of rescue cats, owning more than 27 throughout her lifetime.

Lyla is survived by her three sons, Thomas (Karen) of Redmond, Wash., Eric (Ava) of Tualatin, and Lenny Heiple, of Boise; nine grandchildren and a great granddaughter; sisters Sue McClure, of Fossil, and Karen Eschelby, of Vernonia; four nieces and two nephews and three cats.

Her family will hold a private memorial service this summer to distribute her remains. Memorial contributions are suggested to Brightside Animal Shelter or Cat Rescue Adoption and Foster Team, Bend.

## DEATH NOTICES

**Kenneth William Zacha** of Bend, OR  
April 4, 1964 -  
March 25, 2021

**Arrangements:** Deschutes Memorial Chapel and Gardens is honored to serve the family - (541) 382-5592. Visit our online register book to send condolences and share treasured memories at [deschutesmemorial-chapel.com](http://deschutesmemorial-chapel.com) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/deschutesmemorial](http://facebook.com/deschutesmemorial).  
**Services:** Family gathering will be held at a later date.  
**Contributions may be made to:** Partners in Care, 2075 NE Wyatt Court, Bend, OR 97701.

**Betty A. Mathers** of Bend, OR  
Nov 22, 1926 - March 26, 2021

**Arrangements:** Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. 541-382-2471 Please visit the online registry for the family at [www.niswonger-reynolds.com](http://www.niswonger-reynolds.com)  
**Services:** A gathering of family & friends will be held at a later date.  
**Contributions may be made to:** First Missionary Baptist Church 21129 Reed Market Rd, Bend, OR 97702 or Partners in care 2075 NE Wyatt Ct. Bend, OR 97701

**Daniel Gilbert Sanders** of Redmond, OR  
March 19, 1949 - March 26, 2021

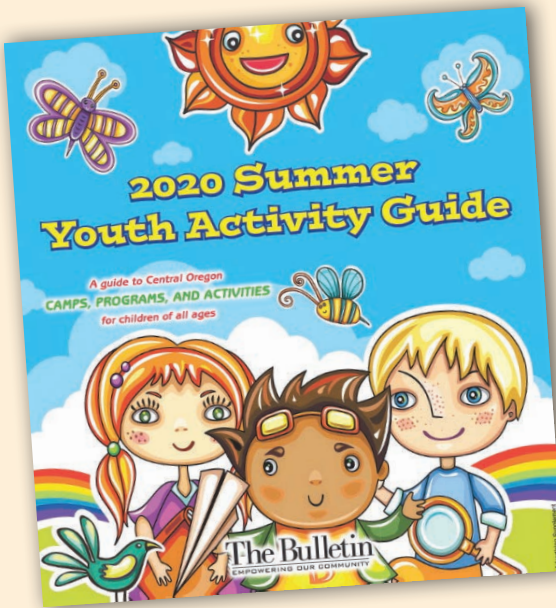
**Arrangements:** Autumn Funerals-Redmond is honored to serve the family. 541-504-9485. Condolences may be conveyed to the family at [www.autumnfunerals.net](http://www.autumnfunerals.net)  
**Services:** A service will be held in California at a later date.

**Dan Henry Skeels** of Madras, OR  
Dec 23, 1928 - March 19, 2021

**Arrangements:** Autumn Funerals, Redmond 541-504-9485 [www.autumnfunerals.net](http://www.autumnfunerals.net)  
**Services:** Services will be held at a later date.

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- Includes camps and other activities from out of the area.

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**HALF OR FULL PAGE ADVERTISERS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT A 500 WORD STORY AND PHOTO ABOUT THEIR CAMP OR PROGRAM.**

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