

Supreme Court nominees should be like icebergs, only a small portion showing, while the real nominee lurks unseen underwater and potentially dangerous?

So I strongly support and commend the Democrats on the Judiciary Committee in their efforts to make these confidential documents public. I stand with them. They did the right thing. The American people desire to see these documents.

In this case, committee confidential is a complete fiction, a subterfuge to avoid the American people knowing the real Brett Kavanaugh. The members of the committee should be praised, not chastised, for making these documents available. They did the right thing, and they had an obligation to do it. The Republican members of the committee should be ashamed of themselves—ashamed of themselves—for participating in the administration and Judge Kavanaugh's coverup of his record. The Senate and the American people have a right to see the nominee's record, especially now, since the nominee appears unwilling to answer substantive questions about his views.

Whatever the rules may be of the Senate, they should not be twisted to ensure partisan advantage and prevent transparency and openness. They should not be twisted to cover up the truth rather than reveal it.

There is so much at stake in this Supreme Court nomination. Will Americans with preexisting conditions be able to get healthcare? Will women be able to make private personal choices about their medical care? Will LGBTQ Americans be able to marry whom they love? Will every American's constitutional right to vote be protected? Can the President of the United States be held accountable, especially at this time? We know how much we need that. Yet, at every turn, the Republican majority, the Trump administration, and Brett Kavanaugh have prevented the Senate and the American people from being truly able to vet a nominee who could affect the lives of Americans for a generation.

I yield the floor.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas.

NOMINATION OF DOMINIC W. LANZA

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, I speak in support of the nomination of Dominic Lanza to be a district judge for the District of Arizona.

Dominic is my old friend and law school classmate and, maybe most importantly, intramural basketball teammate, when he was known as "Dom" or perhaps "The Dominator."

Now, I can't claim the credit for Dominic's nomination. He has the highest qualifications, and his whole life has prepared him for this moment to be a U.S. district judge. Dom graduated with highest honors from Dart-

mouth in 1998, where he was also an All-Ivy League and Academic All-American offensive lineman on the Dartmouth football team. He received the Barrett Award for being the outstanding graduate of his class in achievement, character, and leadership.

In law school together, he excelled, graduating with honors, serving as a member of the law review.

He went on to clerk for Judge Pam Rymmer on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. For 5 years, he worked in private practice with Gibson Dunn & Crutcher in their constitutional and appellate law practice, and won awards for his pro bono work.

For the last 10 years, Dom has served the people of Arizona and the people of this country in the U.S. attorney's office from the District of Arizona. As an assistant U.S. attorney, from 2008 to 2012, he prosecuted over 300 defendants for a wide variety of crimes, including immigration offenses, drug trafficking, and public corruption.

He authored more than 20 appellate briefs and argued more than 11 cases in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. From 2012 to 2015, he served as chief of the district's Financial Crimes and Public Integrity section, and he is now the chief and executive assistant U.S. attorney—the No. 2 position in the district—where he oversees the Phoenix office.

Dom said that the most important lesson he has learned in his time at the U.S. Attorney's Office is the need to represent the facts and the law fairly and accurately to the court and opposing counsel. He has also learned the necessity of treating everybody involved in the legal process—from judges to jurors, support staff, opposing counsel, and parties—with courtesy, dignity, patience, and respect.

Dom has volunteered in the Court Works Program, in which students from at-risk schools perform simulated trials. He participated in the Veterans Court Program, which provides increased support and guidance to Federal criminal defendants who are veterans.

Dom participated in, completed, and received the highest marks from Senator McCain and Senator FLAKE's judicial nomination panel. He now has the support, as well, of Senator JON KYL. I commend all three men for an outstanding selection.

As I said, I can't take credit for Dom's nomination, but I can perhaps add a little bit of perspective to the kind of judge he will be from the man I knew on the basketball courts.

Dom was tough. If you were driving to the basket or fighting for a rebound, you did not want him in your way.

Dom was fairminded. If he fouled an opposing player or knocked a ball out of bounds, you would get no argument from him. He would admit that he knocked the ball out of bounds or that he had committed the foul, and play would go on.

I would say Dominic was even-tempered, something of a gentle giant. When tempers flared on the basketball courts at Hemingway, as they, in retrospect, did too often—and over silly matters—Dom was a peacemaker, separating those who might otherwise be in an altercation.

Dom was a team player. When it was time for him to take the shot because that is what the team needed, that is what he would do, but he was just as happy to pass the ball off, to set a screen, to box-out for a rebound.

Dom was good-natured—competitive to be sure, but he understood that in the grand scheme of things, we were all just a bunch of washed-up high school and college athletes enjoying a few hours off from our studies.

These are all traits that are going to put him in the best position possible to deliver justice not only for the people of Arizona but for the people of the United States. Everyone who comes before him is fortunate that Dominic Lanza will soon be a district judge.

For 42 years, Dominic has been known as Dom or the Dominator, but in just a few hours, he will be known as Your Honor. Few men, by their character and by their lives, better deserve that title than the Dominator, Dominic Lanza.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF BRETT KAVANAUGH

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I want to speak for a few minutes about the hearings going on today with Judge Brett Kavanaugh. I had a chance, as you did, to meet him a little over a month ago. It was clear from that conversation that he is clearly the best person available, in my view, to fill the vacancy left by Justice Anthony Kennedy. I think his opening remarks this week gave great evidence to that. He said, as he described himself, that "a judge must be an umpire—a neutral and impartial arbiter who favors no litigant or policy. . . . I do not decide cases based on personal or policy preferences. I am not a pro-plaintiff or pro-defendant judge. I am not a pro-prosecution or pro-defense judge. I am a pro-law judge."

What does it mean to be a "pro-law" judge? It means that you see your job as a judge who will look at the law and determine what the law says, whether that is criminal law or civil law.

I am not an attorney, but if you hire an attorney to give you advice on civil law, the greatest benefit you can have