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Collection: Atwater, Lee: Files
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Judge O'Connor is personally opposed to abortion. She says she finds the concept "personally abhorrent". She does find that abortion regulation is a legitimate subject for legislation. Since going to the bench in 1975, she has taken no position either way on abortion or the ERA. She favors capital punishment and as a judge has imposed the death penalty.

The President has satisfied himself that she has a respect for human life and traditional family values that are consistent with the 1980 Republican Platform. He is also satisfied that she is a constitutionalist. By that, he means one who interprets and applies the law and does not make it.