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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 31, 1986

Dear Mr. Sessions:

When I submitted your nomination to the United States Senate to be District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama I had every confidence in you and was convinced that you would serve your country with distinction from the federal bench. I continue to hold you in that same high regard and am deeply disappointed that the Senate Judiciary Committee transformed the vote on your nomination into a political test. I feel strongly that the Committee did both you and the nation a serious disservice. It is thus with the greatest reluctance that I accept your request that I withdraw your nomination.

The dignity you displayed during the difficult confirmation process is further evidence of the honor and integrity you have exhibited throughout your career and during the almost five years you have been United States Attorney. Your grace under pressure has been a credit to you and my Administration. I know that your character is a fine and upstanding one, worthy of the great office to which I nominated you.

You have my profound gratitude for having agreed to be my nominee for United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. I am pleased that you will continue to serve as United States Attorney for that district and I wish you and your family well.

Comment

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

The Honorable Jefferson B. Sessions, III
United States Attorney
Southern District of Alabama
305 United States Courthouse
Mobile, Alabama 36601

33013155



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Southern District of Alabama*

*305 United States Courthouse
Post Office Drawer E
Mobile, Alabama 36601*

July 8, 1986

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

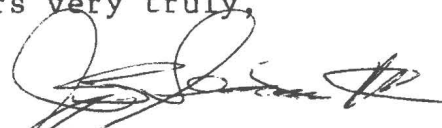
I have been deeply honored by being called to serve your Administration as United States Attorney for nearly five years and then to be your nominee for United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. I share your view of the role of the courts and I can assure you that had I been allowed to serve, I would have given every ounce of my strength to being an effective judge. Despite my firm belief that I have rendered excellent service as United States Attorney and have conducted my office and personal affairs according to the highest legal and professional standards, the Senate Judiciary Committee has declined to report my name either favorably or without any recommendation to the full Senate. Therefore, I think it is appropriate and I ask that you withdraw my name as your nominee for this judgeship and that you submit another person as soon as you are in a position to do so.

Your support and confidence in me are deeply appreciated. Though I did not obtain the confidence of the Judiciary Committee, I take consolation in the fact that all ten of the Circuit Judges in Mobile, all of whom are Democrats, supported my confirmation. Additionally, the District Attorneys in my District supported me and the Mobile Bar Association Executive Committee reaffirmed its support of me by a strong resolution passed during my hearings. The major newspapers in my district also supported my confirmation. I must say that I have been very pleased with the vigorous and effective support that has been given to my nomination by the Department of Justice and Senator Jeremiah Denton.

President Ronald Reagan
July 8, 1986
Page Two

Despite the unpleasantness of the process, I am grateful for the honor of having been your nominee and with the privilege of being able to continue to serve as U. S. Attorney.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. B. Sessions, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "S".

J. B. Sessions, III
United States Attorney

JBS,III.lrn

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 31, 1986

WITHDRAWAL SENT TO THE SENATE:

Jefferson B. Sessions, III, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama, vice a new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984, which was sent to the Senate on January 29, 1986.

#

The President has seen 1/3
33013155

PJW

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

F6053
JUL 23

July 21, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PETER J. WALLISON *PJW*
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Jefferson B. Sessions, III

After considerable controversy, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted against recommending the nomination of Jefferson B. Sessions, III to be federal judge for the Southern District of Alabama. In the attached letter to you, dated July 8, 1986, Mr. Sessions asks that you withdraw his name as your nominee for this judgeship.

In his letter, Mr. Sessions states that he has been deeply honored to serve as your United States Attorney for nearly five years and to have been your nominee for United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. Mr. Sessions indicates his disappointment that he was not able to obtain the confidence of the Judiciary Committee, but he notes his deep appreciation of your support and confidence throughout the difficult confirmation process. Mr. Sessions' letter to you exhibits the same graciousness and integrity he exhibited throughout the proceedings before the Judiciary Committee -- he says, "I am grateful for the honor of having been your nominee and with the privilege of being able to continue to serve as U.S. Attorney."

In order for you to be able to submit a new nomination for the Southern District of Alabama, you must officially withdraw Mr. Sessions' nomination. Your signature on the attached document would effect such withdrawal. Also attached is a proposed letter for your signature to Mr. Sessions. The letter praises Mr. Sessions for his willingness to serve his country as district judge and for his continued service as U.S. Attorney, it also compliments him for his grace under pressure and expresses your respect for the honorable manner with which he conducted himself throughout the difficult process.

*No announcement - Info to Press Office (Press release only)
To Senate on 7/31/86. Letter mailed on 7/31/86.
Peter Wallison's office (Dianne Holland) advised*

*NOTED
dws*

The White House,

July 31, 1986

To the

Senate of the United States.

I withdraw the nomination of

Jefferson B. Sessions, III, of Alabama, to be United States
District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama, vice a
new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984,
which was sent to the Senate on January 29, 1986.

Ronald Reagan

To DC - 7/23/86 (11:15am)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 21, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PETER J. WALLISON 
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Jefferson B. Sessions, III

After considerable controversy, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted against recommending the nomination of Jefferson B. Sessions, III to be federal judge for the Southern District of Alabama. In the attached letter to you, dated July 8, 1986, Mr. Sessions asks that you withdraw his name as your nominee for this judgeship.

In his letter, Mr. Sessions states that he has been deeply honored to serve as your United States Attorney for nearly five years and to have been your nominee for United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. Mr. Sessions indicates his disappointment that he was not able to obtain the confidence of the Judiciary Committee, but he notes his deep appreciation of your support and confidence throughout the difficult confirmation process. Mr. Sessions' letter to you exhibits the same graciousness and integrity he exhibited throughout the proceedings before the Judiciary Committee -- he says, "I am grateful for the honor of having been your nominee and with the privilege of being able to continue to serve as U.S. Attorney."

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RFB

33013155

F6053

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

JUN 29 1986

January 29, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *→*

SUBJECT: Judicial Nominations

The Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Donald Regan, M.B. Oglesby, Mitchell Daniels, Robert Tuttle and I recommend that you resubmit the nominations of the following individuals which failed of confirmation at the sine die adjournment of the first session of the 99th Congress. The individuals are:

Danny J. Boggs - United States Circuit Judge
for the Sixth Circuit

Sidney A. Fitzwater - United States District Judge
for the Northern District of Texas

Walter J. Gex, III - United States District Judge
for the Southern District of Mississippi

Thomas J. McAvoy - United States District Judge
for the Northern District of New York

Jefferson B. Sessions, III - United States District Judge
for the Southern District of Alabama

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached nomination document.

*All previously announced
Info to the Press Office.
To Senate: 1/29/86*

*NOTED
JWF*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
February 11, 1986

33013/cw

JV

705

Dear Mr. Sessions:

To add to your memento file.

With best regards,

Sincerely,



Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Jefferson B. Sessions, III, Esquire
4109 Woodhill Drive
Mobile, Alabama 36608

Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
November 1, 1985

JV

33013/cw

1320

FB053

57001

PE002-01

PU001-06

Dear Mr. Sessions:

Congratulations -- I thought you would
like to have a copy of the enclosed
press releases.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Jefferson B. Sessions, III, Esquire
4109 Woodhill Drive
Mobile, Alabama 36608

Enclosures

Oct 21 85 FFF memo to the Pres.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(New York, New York)

For Immediate Release

October 23, 1985

The President today announced his intention to nominate Jefferson B. Sessions, III, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. This is a new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984.

Since 1981, Mr. Sessions has served as United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. Prior to his appointment as United States Attorney, he was an associate and partner in the law firm of Stockman and Bedsole, 1977-1981; an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, 1975-1977; and an associate with the law firm of Guin, Bouldin and Porch, 1973-1975.

Mr. Sessions graduated from Huntingdon College (B.A., 1969) and the University of Alabama (J.D., 1973). He was born December 24, 1946 in Selma, Alabama, is married, has three children and resides in Mobile, Alabama.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 23, 1985

NOMINATIONS SENT TO THE SENATE:

Frank X. Altimari, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, vice Ellsworth A. VanGraafeiland, retired.

Jefferson B. Sessions, III, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama, vice a new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984.

Morris S. Arnold, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas, vice a new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984.

Robert L. Miller, Jr., of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana, vice a new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984.

Garrett E. Brown, Jr., of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, vice a new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984.

Stanley A. Twardy, Jr., of Connecticut, to be United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut for the term of four years, vice Alan H. Nevas.

William C. Carpenter, Jr., of Delaware, to be United States Attorney for the District of Delaware for the term of four years, vice Joseph J. Farnan, Jr., resigned.

Benjamin L. Burgess, Jr., of Kansas, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas for the term of four years, vice Jim J. Marquez, resigned.

Marvin Collins, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas for the term of four years, vice James A. Rolfe, resigned.


#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 21, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR DIANNA G. HOLLAND

FROM: DEBORAH K. OWEN 

SUBJECT: Jefferson Beauregard Sessions III:
Candidate for U.S. District Court
for the Southern District of Alabama

I have reviewed the personal and financial information submitted to the Justice Department by Jefferson Beauregard Sessions III in connection with his possible nomination to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Alabama and see no legal or other conflicts which should preclude such nomination.


There is one matter that may prompt questions at Mr. Sessions' hearing. As U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, he was involved in a civil rights suit that prompted some charges of racism from the local NAACP and other groups. According to Justice, the issues involved were apparently resolved satisfactorily at the Court of Appeals level and this should not be a problem.

70 10/24

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 21, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING 
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Nomination of Jefferson Sessions, III
to be United States District Judge
for the Southern District of Alabama

The Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Donald Regan, Max Friedersdorf, M.B. Oglesby, Robert Tuttle and Fred Fielding recommend that you nominate Jefferson Sessions, III to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. In 1981 you appointed Mr. Sessions to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. Prior to the above appointment, he was an associate and partner in the law firm of Stockman and Bedsole, 1977-1981; an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, 1975-1977; and an associate with the law firm of Guin, Bouldin and Porch, 1973-1975. He received a B.A. degree in 1969 from Huntingdon College and a J.D. degree in 1973 from the University of Alabama School of Law. He was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1973. Mr. Sessions is 38 years old, married and has three children.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That you call Mr. Sessions (telephone recommendation attached at Tab A).
2. That you sign the nomination at Tab B.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Recommended Telephone Call

TO: Jefferson B. Sessions, III

TELEPHONE: Home: 205 342-5562
Office: 205 690-2845

DATE TO CALL: Tuesday, October 22, 1985

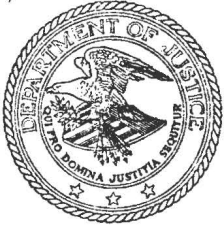
RECOMMENDED BY: The Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Donald Regan, Max Friedersdorf, M.B. Oglesby, Robert Tuttle and Fred Fielding

PURPOSE: To ask him to serve as United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

1. In 1981 you appointed Mr. Sessions to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. Prior to the above appointment, he was an associate and partner in the law firm of Stockman and Bedsole, 1977-1981; an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, 1975-1977; and an associate with the law firm of Guin, Bouldin and Porch, 1973-1975.
2. He received a B.A. degree in 1969 from Huntingdon College and a J.D. degree in 1973 from the University of Alabama School of Law. He was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1973.
3. He is 38 years old, his wife's name is Mary, they have three children and reside in Mobile, Alabama.

10/16 - to DKC



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

October 15, 1985

Dear Mr. President:

JE Jefferson
dup

I have the honor to enclose the nomination of ~~Jefferson~~ B. Sessions, III, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama vice a new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984.

Mr. Sessions was born December 24, 1946 in Selma, Alabama, is married and has three children. He received a B.A. degree in 1969 from Huntingdon College and a J.D. degree in 1973 from the University of Alabama School of Law. He was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1973.

Since 1981, Mr. Sessions has served as United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. Prior to his appointment as United States Attorney, he was an associate and partner in the law firm of Stockman and Bedsole, 1977-1981; an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, 1975-1977; and an associate with the law firm of Guin, Bouldin and Porch, 1973-1975.

The Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary of the American Bar Association has submitted a formal report which states the Committee's opinion that Mr. Sessions is qualified for appointment to this position. He bears an excellent reputation as to character and integrity, has judicial temperament and is, I believe, worthy of appointment as a United States District Judge.

I recommend the nomination.

Respectfully,

D. Lowell Jensen
Acting Attorney General

The President

The White House

JEFFERSON B. SESSIONS, III

Birth: December 24, 1946 Selma, Alabama

Legal Residence: Alabama

Marital Status: Married Mary M. Blackshear Sessions
3 children

Education: 1965 - 1969 Huntingdon College
B.A. degree

1970 - 1973 University of Alabama
School of Law
J.D. degree

Bar: 1973 Alabama

Experience: 1973 - 1975 Guin, Bouldin and Porch
Associate

1975 - 1977 Assistant U. S. Attorney
Southern District of Alabama

1977 - 1981 Stockman and Bedsole
Associate and Partner

1981 - present United States Attorney
Southern District of Alabama

Office: P.O. Drawer E
Mobile, Alabama 36601
205 690-2845

Home: 4109 Woodhill Drive
Mobile, Alabama 36608
205 342-5562

Ethnic Group: Caucasian

Salary: \$76,000

719 88 - Nancy Scott F.

BFB

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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51001
PE002-01
PR007-02
PR005-02
FG017

NYS

October 21, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Nomination of Jefferson Sessions, III
to be United States District Judge
for the Southern District of Alabama

The Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Donald Regan, Max Friedersdorf, M.B. Oglesby, Robert Tuttle and Fred Fielding recommend that you nominate Jefferson Sessions, III to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. In 1981 you appointed Mr. Sessions to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. Prior to the above appointment, he was an associate and partner in the law firm of Stockman and Bedsole, 1977-1981; an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, 1975-1977; and an associate with the law firm of Guin, Bouldin and Porch, 1973-1975. He received a B.A. degree in 1969 from Huntingdon College and a J.D. degree in 1973 from the University of Alabama School of Law. He was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1973. Mr. Sessions is 38 years old, married and has three children.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That you call Mr. Sessions (telephone recommendation attached at Tab A).
2. That you sign the nomination at Tab B.

Announced: 10/23/85 (NY, NY)
To Senate: 10/23/85

NOTED
JWZ



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

To DH - 10/14/85
11:30 am
To DC - 10/21/85
7:00 pm

October 15, 1985

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to enclose the nomination of Jefferson B. Sessions, III, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama vice a new position created by P.L. 98-353, approved July 10, 1984.

Mr. Sessions was born December 24, 1946 in Selma, Alabama, is married and has three children. He received a B.A. degree in 1969 from Huntingdon College and a J.D. degree in 1973 from the University of Alabama School of Law. He was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1973.

NOTE
Since 1981, Mr. Sessions has served as United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. Prior to his appointment as United States Attorney, he was an associate and partner in the law firm of Stockman and Bedsole, 1977-1981; an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, 1975-1977; and an associate with the law firm of Guin, Bouldin and Porch, 1973-1975.

The Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary of the American Bar Association has submitted a formal report which states the Committee's opinion that Mr. Sessions is qualified for appointment to this position. He bears an excellent reputation as to character and integrity, has judicial temperament and is, I believe, worthy of appointment as a United States District Judge.

I recommend the nomination.

Respectfully,

D. Lowell Jensen
Acting Attorney General

The President

The White House



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

October 15, 1985

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D. Lowell Jensen
Acting Attorney General

The President

The White House

The President has seen 10/27

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Recommended Telephone Call

Call made

TO: Jefferson B. Sessions, III

TELEPHONE: Home: 205 342-5562
Office: 205 690-2845

DATE TO CALL: Tuesday, October 22, 1985

RECOMMENDED BY: The Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Donald Regan, Max Friedersdorf, M.B. Oglesby, Robert Tuttle and Fred Fielding

PURPOSE: To ask him to serve as United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

1. In 1981 you appointed Mr. Sessions to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. Prior to the above appointment, he was an associate and partner in the law firm of Stockman and Bedsole, 1977-1981; an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama, 1975-1977; and an associate with the law firm of Guin, Bouldin and Porch, 1973-1975.
2. He received a B.A. degree in 1969 from Huntingdon College and a J.D. degree in 1973 from the University of Alabama School of Law. He was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1973.
3. He is 38 years old, his wife's name is Mary, they have three children and reside in Mobile, Alabama.

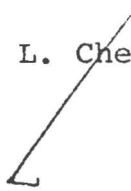
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 22, 1985

NOTE FOR LARRY SPEAKES

We have double-checked this with Legislative Affairs and Counsel. This is ready for review at the 8:00 operations meeting.

David L. Chew





Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

PRES OFFICE
OK per Dramm
OK per OLA

October 15, 1985

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I recommend the nomination.

Respectfully,

D. Lowell Jensen
Acting Attorney General

The President

The White House

JEFFERSON B. SESSIONS, III

Birth: December 24, 1946 Selma, Alabama

Legal Residence: Alabama

Marital Status: Married Mary M. Blackshear Sessions
3 children

Education: 1965 - 1969 Huntingdon College
B.A. degree

1970 - 1973 University of Alabama
School of Law
J.D. degree

Bar: 1973 Alabama

Experience: 1973 - 1975 Guin, Bouldin and Porch
Associate

1975 - 1977 Assistant U. S. Attorney
Southern District of Alabama

1977 - 1981 Stockman and Bedsole
Associate and Partner

1981 - present United States Attorney
Southern District of Alabama

Office: P.O. Drawer E
Mobile, Alabama 36601
205 690-2845

Home: 4109 Woodhill Drive
Mobile, Alabama 36608
205 342-5562

Ethnic Group: Caucasian

Salary: \$76,000

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(New York, New York)

For Immediate Release

October 23, 1985

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Mr. Sessions graduated from Huntingdon College (B.A., 1969) and the University of Alabama (J.D., 1973). He was born December 24, 1946 in Selma, Alabama, is married, has three children and resides in Mobile, Alabama.

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