

ABC's *Good Morning America*

03/21/22

7:01:06 a.m. [TEASE]

14 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: This Morning; Historic Hearings Get Underway]

T.J. HOLMES: Breaking overnight Clarence Thomas hospitalized. The Supreme Court justice experiencing flu-like symptoms. The latest on his condition as the historic hearings for Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson get under way, the first Black woman nominated to the Supreme Court.

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7:11:49 a.m.

1 minute and 23 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; Historic Confirmation Hearings; Ketanji Brown Jackson Would Be First Black Woman on High Court]

HOLMES: Alright, to Capitol Hill now where history is being made this morning. Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's Supreme court nomination hearings are getting underway today and if confirmed, she would be the first black woman on the nation's highest court and a new Monmouth University just out suggests Americans back her appointment by a two-to-one margin. Our congressional correspondent Rachel Scott — oh, where do we find her today — she is actually inside that hearing room. Good morning, Rachel.

RACHEL SCOTT: T.J., good morning. And history will be made in this room today in just a few hours when Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson sits in this chair behind me to begin her confirmation hearings as the very first Black woman nominated to serve on the Supreme Court. And for the first time since the pandemic began, 60 members of the public will also rotate in and out of this room. They'll have a chance to witness history unfold. The hearings will take place over the course of the next four days, starting today with opening statements from the 22 members of the Senate Judiciary Committee as well as an opening statement from Judge Jackson herself. That will be followed on Tuesday and Wednesday by an intense round of questioning. Judge Jackson, her record will be in the spotlight. The White House already having to defend her against Republican attacks claiming that she is soft on crime and attacking her record as public defender. Of course, she has been through a confirmation process before. She was confirmed to the D.C. Circuit with the support of three Republicans. But, T.J., there is no guarantee any of them will support her this time around.