

*CBS Mornings*

03/21/22

7:01:10 a.m. [TEASE]

10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Historic Hearing]

NATE BURLESON: And the Senate begins hearings this morning to consider judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

SENATE MINORITY LEADER MITCH MCCONNELL (R-KY) [on CBS's *Face the Nation*, 03/20/22]: I haven't made a final decision as to how I'm going to vote.

(....)

7:09:21 a.m.

3 minutes and 10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Confirmation Hearings to Begin]

GAYLE KING: And speaking of the Supreme Court, confirmation hearings begin this morning for Supreme Court nominee Ketanji Brown Jackson. Now if approved, the federal judge would be the first Black woman on our highest court. Leaders from both parties say they want to keep things civil, but some Republicans are previewing a line of attack. Nikole Killion is in the hearing room where it's all going to happen. A little *Hamilton* reference there, Nikole, but it is a room where it's going to happen. Nikole, good morning to you.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Historic Hearings Begin; Supreme Court Nominee Ketanji Brown Jackson to Begin Testimony Today]

NIKOLE KILLION: Absolutely, Gayle. Good morning to you. These hearings will last for four days, but today is really all about introductions. Judge Jackson will be seated just behind me where she'll deliver an opening statement, then she'll be questioned by senators starting tomorrow. And a White House official confirms to CBS News that President Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris are expected to watch some of the proceedings.

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN [on 02/25/22]: I'm pleased to nominate Judge Jackson —

KILLION: Less than a month after President Biden nominated the first Black woman to the Supreme Court, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson will make one of the most important cases of her career to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

KETANJI BROWN JACKSON [on 02/25/22]: And if I'm fortunate enough to be confirmed as the next associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, I can only hope that my life and career will inspire future generations of Americans.

KILLION: The Harvard law graduate and mother of two currently sits on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. She has also been a district judge, public defender, and served on the U.S. Sentencing Commission. [TO JACKSON] This the last one this week, judge?

JACKSON: Yes.

KILLION: For weeks, Judge Jackson has made the rounds on Capitol Hill meeting with 44 senators from both parties. She's also been participating in moot court sessions with White House staff.

FORMER SENATOR DOUG JONES (D-AL): She's going back through her college career, law school career. She has done all the due diligence on herself that the senators should be doing.

KILLION [TO DURBIN]: How is this one different?

SENATOR DICK DURBIN (D-IL): Oh, it is different.

KILLION: Illinois Senator Dick Durbin chairs the Judiciary Committee. [TO DURBIN]: How much pressure do you feel to get this right?

DURBIN: I feel some, I'll be very honest with you. I want to do this in the right way. I also think the committee's not on trial, but the committee's being watched closely.

KILLION: Republican Josh Hawley has signaled he wants to use the hearings to go after Jackson's sentencing record.

SENATOR JOSH HAWLEY (R-MO) [on FNC's *Hannity*, 03/17/22]: This is someone who has consistently let sex predators, child sex predators, off the hook.

JEN PSAKI [on 03/17/22]: This attack that we've seen over the last couple of days relies on factual inaccuracies and taking Judge Jackson's record widely out of context.

KILLION: In an exclusive interview on *Face the Nation*, Minority Leader Mitch McConnell said he hasn't made up his mind.

MCCONNELL [on CBS's *Face the Nation*, 03/20/22]: The committee will ask her all the tough questions. I haven't made a final decision as to how I'm going to vote.

KILLION: Judge Jackson was confirmed for previous judicial appointments three times by the Senate on a bipartisan basis. Chairman Durbin tells me he hopes that this time is no different and expects the confirmation vote by Easter. Tony?

TONY DOKOUPIL: Alright. Nikole, thank you very much.

(...)

8:01:32 a.m.

7 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Confirmation Hearings Begin]

BURLESON: Confirmation hearings start today for Supreme Court nominee Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson.

MCCONNELL [on CBS's *Face the Nation*, 03/20/22]: The committee will ask her all the tough questions.