

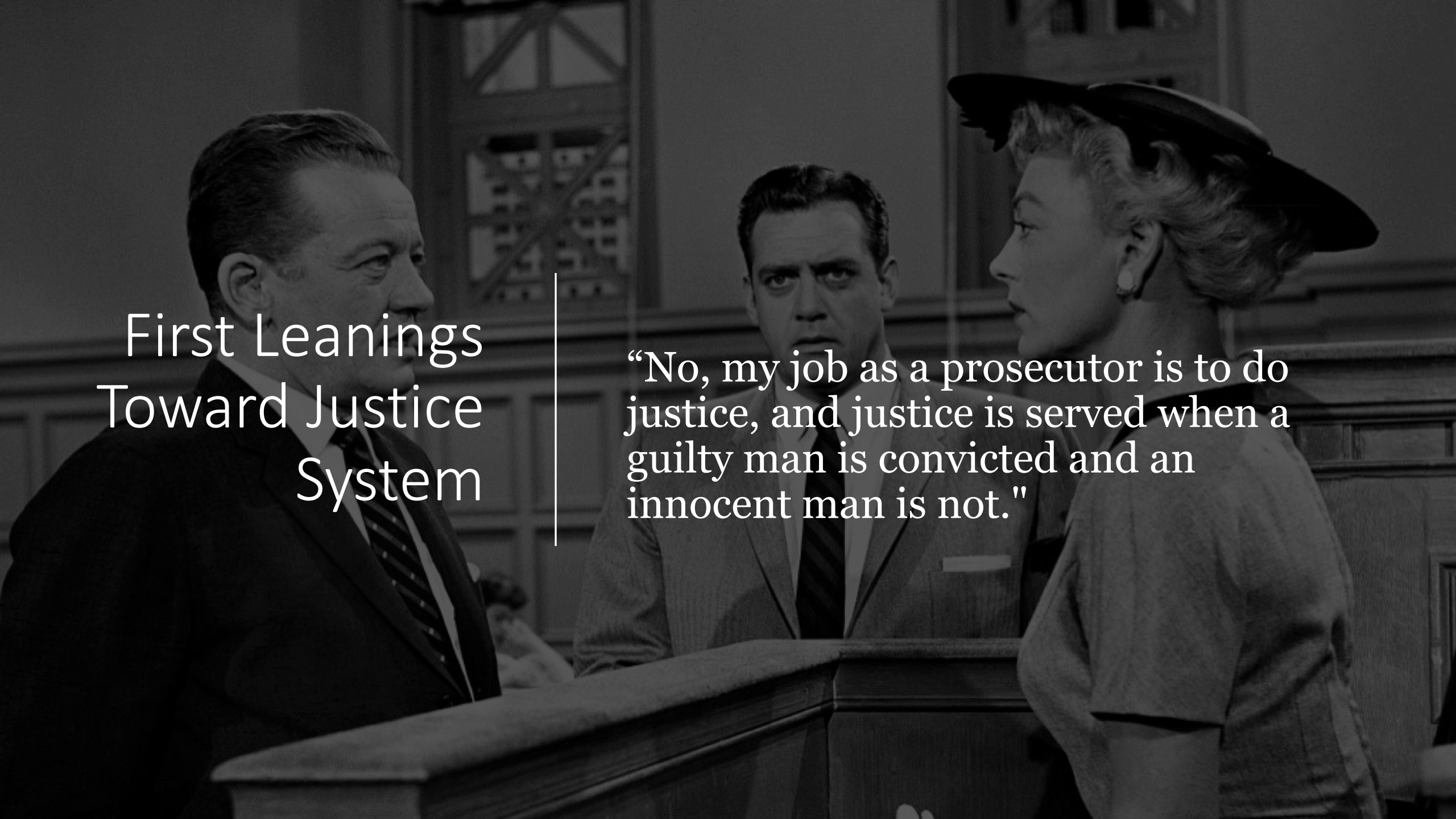


Justice Sonia
Sotomayor:
An American
Success Story

Early Life

- Born on June 25, 1954 in the South Bronx
- Parents Juan and Celina Sotomayor moved to New York City from Puerto Rico to raise Justice Sotomayor
- In 1963, her father died of heart problems
- Her mother was a nurse at a methadone clinic and worked long hours to support the family
- For grammar school, she attended Blessed Sacrament School





First Leanings
Toward Justice
System

“No, my job as a prosecutor is to do justice, and justice is served when a guilty man is convicted and an innocent man is not.”

High School Years



Undergraduate Years



PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY

The Daily Princetonian, Saturday, February 28, 1976

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Germany, Sotomayor receive 1976 Pyne Prize



Germany: 21 A+'s

By Adam Gillnsky

J. David Germany and Sonia M. Sotomayor are the joint winners of this year's M. Taylor Pyne Honor Prize, the highest honor the university confers on an undergraduate.

The prize, given to the senior or seniors who have "manifested in outstanding fashion...excellent scholarship and effective support of the best interests of Princeton University," carries with it an award equal to a year's tuition, \$3,900 this year, which will be shared by the two recipients.

The Pyne Prize is not the first recognition of Germany's scholarship—he has won both the Freshman First Honor Prize for the highest grades during freshman year and the Class of 1939 Prin-

cton Scholar Prize for the highest academic standing prior to senior year.

Two years ago, after winning the freshman award, Germany said, "There's a choke factor on every final exam, and I'm really due for a big one. But I'm going to enjoy this as long as I can." Today, his transcript shows 21 A+'s and 9 A's.

Teaching assistant

An economics major, Germany has been employed as a teaching assistant in upper-level economics courses. He also has served as editor-in-chief of the Nassau Herald, co-director of the Campus Fund Drive and transportation coordinator of the Student Volunteers Council.

Sotomayor, a history major, has maintained almost straight A's for the last two years, but is especially known for her extracurricular

activities.

Her dedication to the life of minority students at Princeton has been illustrated by her service on the Governance Board of the Third World Center and in her efforts to form the Latino Students Organization.

She also has worked as a volunteer at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital and has served on the student-faculty Discipline Committee.

Former winners of the prize, awarded since 1921, have included former Princeton president Robert F. Goheen '40, Nixon adviser H. Chapman Rose '28 and House Judiciary Committee member Paul S. Sarbanes '54 (D-Md).

Secret membership

The recipient of the honor is chosen by the president, the dean of the college, and the secretary of the university from a list of recommendations prepared by a committee chaired by the dean of student affairs, and consisting of two faculty members and three juniors. Last year the members of the committee were announced, but this year the group decided to keep its membership secret.

Commenting on the selection process, 1974 prize-winner Thomas A. Barron said, "It's always been a source of puzzlement to me how I won. Things I had no idea I'd said or done were brought to my attention. To my chagrin, my freshman preceptors were asked about my participation in class."

President Bowen said the selection process is a detailed one,



Sotomayor: Third World efforts

involving interviews with department chairmen, faculty and students who have had contact with nominees.

"We try our best to find people who excel," he said. There are no set criteria for the prize, Bowen added, saying, "There are many ways to contribute—sometimes not through any organized method."

Community service

Nominees for the prize this year numbered "20 to 30," according to Dean of Student Affairs Adele S. Simmons. She said nominations had not only come from the selection committee, but also from responses to advertisements placed in The Daily Princetonian in January.



"I came to accept during my freshman year that many of the gaps in my knowledge and understanding were simply limits of class and cultural background, not lack of aptitude or application as I'd feared. That acceptance, though, didn't make me feel less self-conscious and unschooled in the company of classmates who'd had the benefit of much more worldly experience.

-Justice Sonia Sotomayor, *My Beloved World* 170-71 (2013).



SONIA MARIA SOTOMAYOR

I am not a champion of lost causes, but of causes
not yet won.

— Norman Thomas

My Princeton experience has been the people I've met.
To them, for their lessons of life, I remain
eternally indebted and appreciative.

To them and to that extra-special person in my life

Thank You — For all that I am and am not.
The sum total of my life here, has been made-up
of little parts from all of you.

The Yale Law Journal

Volume 88, Number 5, April 1979

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Susan P. Sturm, *"Mastering" Intervention in Prisons*

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Law School



Yale Law School





“Much has changed in the thinking about affirmative action since those early days when it opened doors in my life and [my brother’s]. But one thing has not changed: to doubt the worth of minority students’ achievement when they succeed is really only to present another face of the prejudice that would deny them a chance even to try. It is the same prejudice that insists all those destined for success must be cast from the same mold as those who have succeeded before them, a view that experience has already proven a fallacy.”

- Justice Sonia Sotomayor, [My Beloved World](#) 245 (2013).

New York
City District
Attorney's
Office

Sonia Sotomayor de Noonan
(Signature)

District Attorney
of the
County of New York

THIS IS TO CERTIFY

that SONIA SOTOMAYOR DE NOONAN
whose signature and photograph appear
hereon, has this day been regularly appointed

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
on the staff of the District Attorney of
the County of New York.

Dated August 13, 1979

Robert M. Morgenthau
ROBERT M. MORGENTHAU

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“Though I was always glad to have won my cases, somehow the idea of a person going to jail, with all the misery that entailed for a family, never quite seemed cause for celebration.”

- Justice Sonia Sotomayor, My Beloved World 298 (2013).

The Tarzan Murderer



“I’ve always had a fundamental faith in rehabilitation, always believed that education and effort, if applied intelligently, could ultimately fix anything. Richard Maddicks taught me that there are exceptions, however few.”

-Justice Sonia Sotomayor, My Beloved World 311 (2013).

“[M]y first real-life encounter with a human being beyond salvage.”

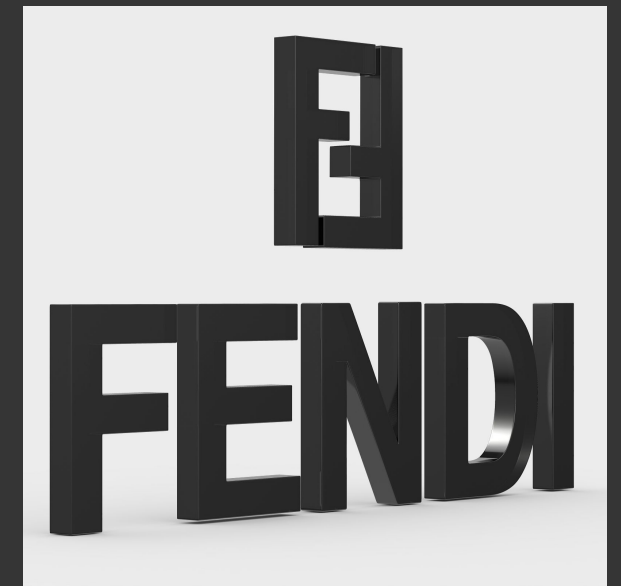
- Justice Sonia Sotomayor, My Beloved World 310-11 (2013).



PAVIA & HARCOURT LLP

Next Step: Private Practice

Notable Activity





The Federal Bench: District Court

- Justice Sotomayor gained fame while sitting on the US. District Court for the Southern District of New York in 1991 when she “saved” Major League Baseball in her strike-ending decision in *Silverman v. Major League Baseball Player Relations Committee, Inc.*, 880 F.Supp. 246 (S.D. N.Y. 1995).
- In *Castle Rock Entertainment, Inc. v. Carol Publishing Group, Inc.*, 955 F.Supp. 260 (S.D. N.Y. 1997), then Judge Sotomayor found that Defendant’s production of a trivia book based on the popular sitcom Seinfeld did not constitute fair use under the fair use doctrine.
- In June 1997, President Clinton nominated her to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.



Notable Cases

The Federal Bench: The Second Circuit Court of Appeals



Notable Cases

- *Malesko v. Correctional Services Corporation*, 229 F.3d 374 (2d Cir. 2000).
- *Center for Reproductive Law and Policy v. Bush*, 304 F.3d 183 (2d Cir. 2002).
- *Riverkeeper Inc. v. EPA*, 475 F.3d 83 (2d Cir. 2007).
- *Hankins v. Lyght*, 441 F.3d 96 (2d Cir. 2006) (Sotomayor, J., dissenting).

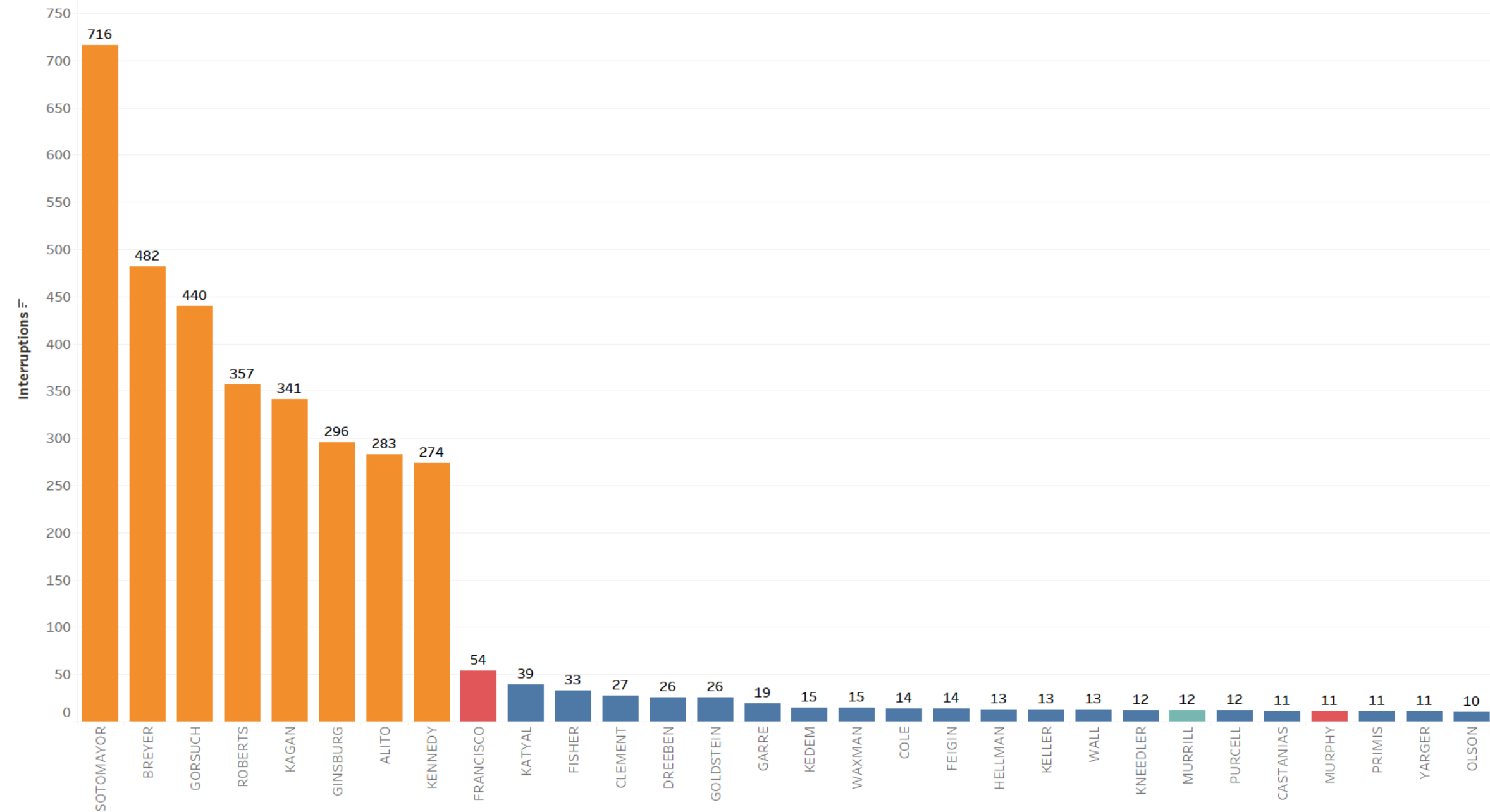


The Federal Bench: The Supreme Court of the United States

Interrupter

Type

- Attorney (F)
- Attorney (M)
- Justice
- S.G.



Notable Cases

- *United States v. Jones*, 585 U.S. ____ (2012) (Sotomayor, J., concurring).
- *Glossip v. Gross*, 576 U.S. ____ (2015) (Sotomayor, J., dissenting).
- *Trump v. Hawaii*, 585 U.S. ____ (2018) (Sotomayor, J., dissenting).

El Fin

