Chronology of the Investiture Ceremony for Brett M. Kavanaugh
November 8, 2018

Associate Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh will be escorted by the Clerk of the Court, Scott Harris, to the well of the Courtroom, where he will sit in the same chair used by Chief Justice John Marshall during the early 19th century. The chair has been used for the investiture of every member of the Court since Lewis F. Powell, Jr., took his Judicial Oath in 1972.

Pamela Talkin, the Court’s Marshal, will announce the President and First Lady of the United States, who will be escorted to their seats next to retired Justice Anthony M. Kennedy. The Marshal will rap the gavel and introduce the Chief Justice and Associate Justices with the Court’s traditional “cry.” The Members of the Court will take their places on the Bench.

Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker, Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein, and Solicitor General Noel Francisco will be seated at counsel table in front of the Bench. The Acting Attorney General will move to have Justice Kavanaugh’s Commission read by Clerk Harris. Marshal’s Aide Assistant Supervisor Michael Williams will carry the Commission to the Clerk.

Deputy Clerk of the Court Laurie Wood will then escort Justice Kavanaugh to the Bench and the Clerk of Court will escort Justice Kavanaugh to the center of the Bench. At this point, the Justices will stand, but the audience will remain seated. Chief Justice Roberts will administer the Judicial Oath to Justice Kavanaugh, with the Clerk standing between them holding a Bible. After the oath, Chief Deputy Marshal Richard Nelson will escort Justice Kavanaugh to his seat on the far right. Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Kavanaugh will be seated and the special session will then adjourn.