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## Scalia dedicates school's new Goldberg courtroom

### Justice describes labor lawyer's commitment to solving union issues

BY JERRY CRIMMINS

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At the dedication of the new Arthur J. Goldberg Memorial Courtroom at The John Marshall Law School Friday, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia praised Goldberg as a labor leader.

Scalia compared Goldberg's reputation in the labor movement to Thurgood Marshall's in the civil rights movement. Goldberg served in the U.S. Supreme Court from 1962 to 1965.

Goldberg, who died in 1990, was general counsel to the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) and legal adviser on the CIO's merger with the American Federation of Labor in 1955.

Scalia summarized Goldberg's life in a speech to a standing room only audience of about 150 in the Goldberg courtroom.

Goldberg was a native of the West Side of Chicago, a labor lawyer in private practice and worked on the faculty at John Marshall from 1938 to 1942. He became an adjunct professor there in 1947 and 1948.

Even in World War II, when Goldberg was an Army major, he worked with labor unions, Scalia said.

He said Goldberg arranged a labor strike in a plant in neutral Sweden "that was making war material for Germany secretly."

President John F. Kennedy appointed Goldberg as the U.S. Secretary of Labor in 1961 and then appointed him to the high court in 1962.

In his brief tenure of less than three years on the high court, Goldberg "wrote fine opinions" including one on the need for immediate desegregation of the parks in Memphis, Tenn., Scalia said. Memphis asked for a delay.

Goldberg's majority opinion stated in 1963 — and Scalia quoted — "The rights here asserted are, like all such rights, present rights; they are not merely hopes to some future enjoyment of some formalistic constitutional promise. The basic guarantees of our Constitution are warrants for the here and now. ..." *Watson v. City of Memphis*, No. 373 U.S. 526.

"The common wisdom," Scalia said, "is that President Johnson cajoled Goldberg to leave" the Supreme Court in 1965 "to replace him with Abe Fortas in the Jewish seat" on the court.

That year, President Lyndon Johnson appointed Goldberg as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

But Goldberg's colleagues said Goldberg "did not much like the job" as a justice. It didn't suit a man of action, which Goldberg was, Scalia said.

And in the 1960s, the U.N. was a more active and significant body than today, Scalia said.

Overall, it was as a labor leader that Goldberg shined "like Thurgood Marshall," Scalia said.

Goldberg's daughter, Barbara Goldberg Cramer, and two of his grandsons, Daniel and Matthew Cramer, were present.

John Marshall Dean John E.



(From left to right) Arthur J. Goldberg's daughter Barbara Cramer, Chief Cook County Circuit Judge Timothy C. Evans, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, John Marshall Law School Board of Trustees President Leonard F. Amari and John Marshall Associate Dean Rory Dean Smith cut the ceremonial ribbon during the dedication of the Arthur J. Goldberg Memorial Courtroom on Friday. *Chandler West*

Corkery said the school invited Scalia to speak at the dedication because Scalia spoke twice before at the school and was a friend of the school's late Dean Howard T. Markey.

Later, in a speech to about 550 at The Standard Club, Scalia delivered a passionate defense of the "originalism" method of interpreting the U.S. Constitution.

"It begins with the text; ends with the text; it gives the text the meaning it had when it was adopted," Scalia told the audience.

The rival interpretative method in which justices say they believe the meaning of "the living Constitution" changes over time, will lead to "the destruction of the Constitution," Scalia said.

Afterwards, John Marshall

student Joshua Richards, 25, of Chicago, said, "I approved of some of the things he said and I disapproved of others. He made a very good case for originalism."

Scalia's speech "was fantastic," said John Marshall student Joshua Rinker, 29, of Pontiac, Ill.

Rinker said some of his professors teach the opposite of Scalia's view of the Constitution.

"I hope some of my professors were listening," he said.

Scalia also spoke in a separate event at John Marshall to 80 student members of The Federalist Society from Chicago law schools.

"He was so kind-hearted in interacting with the students," said Natalie Laczek, co-vice president of the Federalist Society at John Marshall.