



Department of Justice

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Drew Saunders Days, III, nominated by President Carter today to be Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, is an experienced trial lawyer in the civil rights field.

Upon confirmation, he will be the first black Assistant Attorney General to head any division of the Justice Department in its 187-year history.

Mr. Days, 35, is first assistant counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., in New York City, with whom he has been associated since 1969.

"Drew Days has the training, the experience, and the commitment to lead the Civil Rights Division in the vigorous enforcement of federal laws to insure equal opportunity for all persons," Attorney General Griffin B. Bell said.

"He will have my full support in eliminating discrimination in education, employment, housing, voting, public accommodations, and credit transactions and in protecting the rights of inmates of penal and mental institutions and of all persons against abuses by law enforcement officers."

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With the Legal Defense Fund, Mr. Days has been involved in school desegregation, police misconduct, employment discrimination, and prisoners' rights cases at the trial and appellate court levels.

Mr. Days has also served as administrator of the Earl Warren Legal Internship Program, a Legal Defense Fund program designed to train black lawyers in civil rights and civil liberties and to assist them in starting private practices, primarily in the South.

From July, 1973, to June, 1975, he served on leave of absence from the Legal Defense Fund as an associate professor of law at Temple University, teaching civil procedure, federal courts and jurisdiction, constitutional law, and political and civil rights.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, on August 29, 1941, Mr. Days attended public schools in Tampa, Florida, and New Rochelle, New York.

He received a bachelor of arts degree cum laude in English literature from Hamilton College in 1963 and his law degree from Yale Law School in 1966.

After graduation, Mr. Days worked briefly as a law associate with a Chicago labor law firm, Cotton, Watt, Jones, King and Bowlus, then joined the Peace Corps in February, 1967. He served as a volunteer in an agricultural cooperative organization in Comayagua, Honduras, until he joined the Legal Defense Fund in 1969.

Mr. Days is fluent in the Spanish language.

In other activities, Mr. Days has been a volunteer attorney with the Illinois Civil Liberties Union, a consultant-program writer for the Agency for International Development in Honduras, and an interpreter for the Rockefeller Commission to Latin America on its visit to Honduras.

Mr. Days is director and president of Windham Child Care, an adoption and child care agency in New York City; trustee of the Bank Street College of Education; and member of the Criminal Law Task Force of the National Conference of Black Lawyers.

He is married to the former Ann Ramsay Langdon, of Providence, Rhode Island. They have two daughters, Alison Langdon, 4, and Elizabeth Jamerson, seven months.

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