

Inside the Court: Eyewitness Accounts

Justice Stephen Breyer

Justice Breyer, the Optimistic Pragmatist

By Brianne Gorod. SCOTUSblog – January 27, 2022

"As I think about Justice Breyer's legacy, I think it will be defined in large part by those broader ideas about our system of government. Justice Breyer is a pragmatist who believes deeply that our Constitution and our government should work. When President Bill Clinton nominated him to the high court, he put it simply, saying that "[t]he Constitution and the law must be more than mere words, they must work as a practical reality." And he promised that he would "try to make the law work for people, because that is its defining purpose in a government of the people."... Because he thinks the law should work for people, he cares deeply about the real-world context in which the court is acting and the consequences of its decisions. These aspects of his decision making are evident in so many of his opinions."

SOURCE : <https://www.scotusblog.com/2022/01/justice-breyer-the-optimistic-pragmatist/>