

## CHRONOLOGY



- 1908 Born Thoroughgood Marshall on July 2 in Baltimore, Maryland
- 1929 Marries Vivian Burey
- 1930 Graduates with honors from Lincoln University
- 1933 Receives law degree from Howard University; begins private practice in Baltimore
- 1934 Begins to work for Baltimore branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- 1935 With Charles Houston, wins first major civil rights case, *Murray v. Pearson*
- 1936 Becomes assistant special counsel for NAACP in New York
- 1940 Appointed director-counsel for NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund; with *Chambers v. Florida*, wins first of 27 Supreme Court victories
- 1944 Successfully argues *Smith v. Allwright*, overthrowing the South's "white primary"; suffers the first of four Supreme Court defeats with *Lyons v. Oklahoma*
- 1946 Receives Spingarn Medal from NAACP
- 1948 Wins *Shelley v. Kraemer*, in which Supreme Court strikes down legality of racially restrictive covenants
- 1950 Wins Supreme Court victories in two graduate-school integration cases, *Sweatt v. Painter* and *McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents*
- 1951 Visits South Korea to investigate charges of racism in U.S. armed forces
- 1954 Wins *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, landmark case that demolishes legal basis for segregation in America
- 1955 Following death of first wife, marries Cecilia Suyat
- 1961 Defends civil rights demonstrators, winning Supreme Court victory in *Garner v. Louisiana*; nominated to Second Circuit Court of Appeals by President John F. Kennedy
- 1961–65 As circuit judge, makes 98 rulings, all of them later upheld by Supreme Court
- 1965 Appointed U.S. solicitor general by President Lyndon Johnson; wins 14 of the 19 cases he argues for the government between 1965 and 1967
- 1967 Becomes first black American elevated to U.S. Supreme Court; as associate justice, continues to support constitutional rights and educational and legal equality for all races
- 1991 Announces his retirement on June 27
- 1993 Dies of heart failure on January 24 at Bethesda Naval Medical Center in Maryland
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