

Thurgood Marshall

Born: July 2nd, 1908 in Baltimore, Maryland.

- Born into a family of being slaves.

Education: Howard University School of Law, Lincoln University, Colored High and Training School (Frederick Douglass High School)

- Went into school wanting to become a dentist, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in literature and philosophy.
- Later went on to Howard University to study law and graduated first in his class.

Job: Civil Rights Activist, Lawyer, Supreme Court Justice, Judge.

First big Civil Rights Victory: Murray vs. Pearson.

- Against school he could not attend because of segregation, University of Maryland.
 1. Challenging their segregation policy, and opening the door to equal education for generations of Maryland students.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People: was brought on as a legal counsel just out of law school.

- Within a few years Marshall became chief counsel for the organization.
- Went on to fight many more cases important to the NAACP; one being **Brown vs. Board of Education**.
 1. Linda Brown's father charged school with violating Linda's rights by denying entry into school.
 2. Court ruled in favor of Brown saying the segregated schooling violated the 14th amendment.
 3. Meaning ALL schools must desegregate.
 4. Reaction: Little Rock Nine, and Civil Rights act of 1957
- Marshall leading the team that led before Supreme Court; which delivered a unanimous decision of integration of school.

US Supreme Court Chambers vs. Florida: first case won.

- Being only 32 when he won his first case in front of the Supreme Court.

Marshall was married a second time. After the death of his wife he married Cecilia Suyat, together they had two sons.

1965 Marshall became the first black US solicitor general.

- Marshall won 14 out of the 19 cases he argued for the nation.

Nominated to the US Supreme Court.

- Two years after becoming the first black US solicitor general Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Marshall to the US Supreme Court.
- First black person ever to hold this position.
- What Lyndon B. Johnson had to say about this was, “the right thing to do, the right time to do it, the right man and the right place.”

Marshall retired in 1991 and Clarence Thomas was the second Black Supreme Court justice.

Marshall passed away on January 24th, in 1993 due to heart failure at 84.

Few months after Marshall's death President Bill Clinton awarded **Marshall the Presidential Medal of Freedom, nations highest civilian honor.**

Source

- <http://www.legacy.com/news/legends-and-legacies/thurgood-marshall-20-facts/1349/>
- <http://www.biography.com/people/thurgood-marshall-9400241#synopsis>