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Press Release

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CWV OPPOSES SOTOMAYOR NOMINATION; DEFENDS CONSTITUTIONAL SEPARATION OF POWERS

ALEXANDRIA, VA: The Constitution of the United States, (which all military veterans and citizens are sworn to protect and defend), clearly defines for all of us in its first three Articles our national system of governance. Article 1, Section 1, states that all Legislative powers specifically reside with the Congress; Article 2, Section 1, states that all Executive power specifically resides with the President of the United States; and Article 3, Section 1, states that all Judicial power specifically resides with the Supreme Court and its subordinate courts. This triad of separately defined branches of our government was consciously designed by our nation's founders to function independently within the limits and scope guaranteed to each branch by our Constitution; the separation of governing powers carrying on into perpetuity.

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The citizens of the United States can only be guaranteed that their liberty, peace, and prosperity will be safeguarded and defended without prejudice if these three co-equal branches of government retain their separated abilities to govern.

At Duke University Law School in 2005, Judge Sonia Sotomayor was consciously videotaped publicly stating, "The Court of Appeals is where policy is made." Realizing the error of her statement, she quickly attempted to defuse the situation by joking about her comments with her audience and stating with obvious nonchalance that she was well aware that she was being taped and that she, "...should never be saying that."

It is clearly evidenced by her initial comments and her subsequent attempt to humorously distance herself from her controversial statement, that her honestly held convictions and view of the role of the judiciary is not in keeping with the tenants of the United States Constitution. As such, appointing a jurist to a life-long post on the Supreme Court who holds to such a misunderstanding of the powers and limitations of the judicial branch makes that person unqualified to execute the responsibilities of that very office.

For this reason, the Catholic War Veterans of the United States strongly oppose the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court and strongly urge the United States Senate to deny her confirmation. We further urge President Obama to select another candidate who will unconditionally adhere to the role of the judicial branch of our government as defined by the U. S.

Constitution, and who does not see their role as a United States jurist as one of "making policy".

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Founded in 1935, the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Inc. is the preeminent national veterans service organization representing the Catholic military veterans of our nation. The CWV is the only Catholic organization to have been granted an official charter by the U.S. Congress. The CWV is a private, non-profit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service under IRC 501(c)4.