## **HOUSTON CHRONICLE**

Houston, TX February 09, 2008 Comments

## Judicial vacancies exist because President Bush ignores remarkable compromises offered by Senators.

By Earthjustice's Glenn Sugameli

Two 4th Circuit Court seats lack nominees because Bush refuses even to discuss five joint recommendations by Senators John Warner (R-VA) and Jim Webb (D-VA). In three states, Bush rejected offers to elevate his trial judges to Circuit Courts.

Bush chose pending nominees to inflame his right-wing base with artificial vacancies.

Steve Matthews was an officer and director of Mark Levin's Landmark Legal Foundation when it endorsed Rush Limbaugh for a Nobel Peace Prize. Levin ridicules global warming as "nonsense" and Sens. John McCain (R.-Ariz.) and Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.) as "liberal idiots." In "Men in Black: How the Supreme Court Is Destroying America," Levin thanked Matthews for having "supported me in all I do."

Robert Conrad Jr. denounced Sister Helen Prejean as a "church-hating nun" and her book Dead Man Walking as "liberal drivel." He allowed corporations to bury streams with mine waste; which three dissenting judges said "eviscerates" key Clean Water Act language.

President Bush should withdraw controversial nominees and listen to Senators' "advice and consent."