

United States Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy Defines Rule of Law

**Excerpts from United States Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy's
Remarks to the American Bar Association Opening Assembly
August 5, 2006**

The Rule of Law

1. The Law is superior to, and thus binds, the government and all its officials.
2. The Law must respect and preserve the dignity, equality, and human rights of all persons. To these ends the Law must establish and safeguard the constitutional structures necessary to build a free society in which all citizens have a meaningful voice in shaping and enacting the rules that govern them.
3. The Law must devise and maintain systems to advise all persons of their rights, and it must empower them to fulfill just expectations and seek redress of grievances without fear of penalty or retaliation.

[Video: Justice Kennedy's Remarks at ABA 2006 Opening Assembly](#)