

**Chairman Peters Opening Statement As Prepared for Delivery
Full Committee Hearing: Judicial and Postal Nominations
September 21, 2023**

Today, we are considering four nominations: Thomas G. Day to serve as a Commissioner for the Postal Regulatory Commission, as well as Katherine E. Oler, Judith E. Pipe, and Charles J. Willoughby Jr. to be Associate Judges on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Welcome to each of our nominees and to those joining them for today's hearing. Congratulations on your nominations, and thank you for your willingness to serve in these important positions. Each of these roles are essential to the federal government and the District of Columbia.

The Postal Regulatory Commission is a bipartisan body that provides key oversight for the Postal Service. Countless families rely on the Postal Service every day – this commission helps to ensure that they are most effectively serving the American people. Last week, we were able to advance one nominee for the Postal Regulatory Commission with unanimous bipartisan support.

I hope that we can do the same for Mr. Day's nomination, and ensure that the Commission remains fully staffed and best-positioned to carry out its important work. I'd also like to thank Ranking Member Paul for working with me to quickly move Mr. Day's nomination through the Committee process.

The D.C. Superior Court functions as the state-level trial court in the nation's capital. The court has an extraordinarily high number of cases, and each one impacts the livelihoods of individuals and families across the District of Columbia. Unfortunately, judicial vacancies place serious

burdens on judges and delay resolutions for the parties before the court. Filling open seats will help the court conduct its work more efficiently, and provide a better service to the people of the District.

Welcome again to all four of you. Today's hearing is an important opportunity for the Committee to learn more about your qualifications and how you plan to serve in these new roles.