

**Nominations of Joshua A. Deahl to be Associate Judge,
District of Columbia Court of Appeals, Deborah J. Israel and Andrea L. Hertzfeld to be
Associate Judges, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and Robert A. Dixon to be a
U.S. Marshal, Superior Court of the District of Columbia**

**Opening Statement of Chairman James Lankford
October 22, 2019
AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY**

Good morning. This hearing of the Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee will come to order. This morning, we will consider four nominees for the D.C. judiciary system: Joshua Deahl to be an Associate Judge of the D.C. Court of Appeals; Deborah Israel and Andrea Hertzfeld to be Associate Judges of the Superior Court of D.C.; and Robert Dixon to be a U.S. Marshal for the D.C. Superior Court.

Joshua Deahl currently works as an appellate attorney at the Public Defenders Service for the District of Columbia. Previously, Mr. Deahl has served as a Clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justices O'Connor and Kennedy. Mr. Deahl also clerked in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Deborah Israel, currently a partner at Womble Bond Dickinson, has a legal career steeped in complex civil litigation.

Andrea Hertzfeld has been an Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia since 2010. Before that, she spent six years as an associate in private practice.

And Robert Dixon spent his entire career in public service with the Department of Labor. He began his career as an Investigator in their Atlanta office, and later he moved to D.C. and to the Office of Inspector General, retiring in 2016 as the Director of Investigations for the Department of Labor IG's Office. Mr. Dixon is currently a Member of the Board of Directors of the Alliance for Safe Traffic Stops and the D.C. President of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

The Committee takes these nominations very seriously, and we are pleased to have these nominees before us. Committee staff reached out to many of the colleagues and affiliates of the nominees, and they spoke highly of your professional abilities and fitness to potentially serve in the roles to which you have been nominated. Staff interviewed the nominees on an array of issues, and each has thoughtfully and competently answered each question.

I look forward to speaking with each of you more today on your experience and accomplishments and how you intend to bring them to bear for the District of Columbia.

I now recognize Ranking Member Sinema for her opening statement.