

**Opening Statement of Laura E. Crane**  
**Nominee to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Superior Court**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, it is an honor and privilege to be here today. I am grateful for the opportunity to appear before you as you consider my nomination to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

There are many people I would like to thank today. First, I extend my thanks to each of the members of the Committee and to the Committee staff for considering my nomination. I further extend my appreciation to the Judicial Nomination Commission, and its chair, Judge Emmet G. Sullivan, for their service on the Commission. I extend my humble thank you to President Biden for nominating me to serve the people of the District of Columbia in this capacity.

I struggle to find words to express my deep appreciation for the support of my colleagues, family, and friends, who have been supporting me throughout this journey. In particular, I want to thank the current and former leadership of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, where I have had the privilege and honor to work for the past eight years. This includes the current U.S. Attorney, Matt Graves, as well as former U.S. Attorneys Ron Machen, Vince Cohen, Channing Phillips, and Jessie Liu. I also thank my colleagues from the U.S. Attorney's Office who I have learned so much from.

I reserve special thanks for my friends and family who have supported me throughout this process and in the many years leading up to this. My parents, Pat and Carol Crane, are here today. They traveled here from upstate New York to extend the unfaltering support they have provided me throughout my life. Without that support, I have no doubt I would not be sitting here before you today. My parents worked tirelessly to support their children and have served as an example of hard work, kindness, respect, and humility. My brother Andrew Crane, and my sister-in-law, Yaara, are also here today; both of whom have dedicated their careers to public service as an attorney and as an educator.

I moved to the District of Columbia after graduating from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis and had an opportunity to begin my legal career working alongside dedicated and accomplished public servants at the Department of Justice where I worked on cases seeking to ensure that individuals with disabilities were receiving services in integrated settings. After briefly moving to New York City to work in private practice, I returned to the District for a clerkship with Judge James E. Boasberg of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. During my clerkship, I spent countless hours in court proceedings and hoped that one day, I would have an opportunity to practice like the advocates who appeared before Judge Boasberg. That dream became a reality when I joined the U.S. Attorney's Office, where I have had the privilege of serving the citizens of the District of Columbia in both the Superior Court and the United States District Court for the past eight years, trying 60 cases and working on over one hundred investigations.

Since joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, I have appeared in court on a daily or near-daily basis and observed first-hand the qualities that make for an exceptional judge: humility, hard work, and application of the law to the facts without favor or bias. If given the opportunity to serve on the

bench, I will honor those principles. Thank you again for considering my nomination and I look forward to answering any questions you might have.