

**Opening Statement of Carl Ezekiel Ross**  
**Nominee to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia**  
**July 12, 2022**

Good morning Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member and members of the Committee. It is an honor to be before you today, and I want to thank the members of the Committee and the dedicated Committee staff as you consider my nomination to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. I would like to thank the members of the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission and its Chair, the Honorable Emmet Sullivan, for recommending me to the White House and the President for nominating me. I would like to thank my parents, Gwen Ross who is here today and the late Carl Ross Jr. for teaching me the value of hard work. I would like to thank my siblings, Marsha Ross, who is also here today, and my other siblings who are watching remotely, Della, Cecil, Robby, Brandon and Ryan for keeping me grounded. I would like to thank my in-laws, Pastor Gerold and Wendy LeBlanc for always leading by example, and I would like to thank my family, friends and mentors, including the Honorable James Spencer, the Honorable Hannah Lauck, the Honorable Rhonda Reid-Winston, and the Honorable Rudolph Contreras for their continued guidance and support. I would like to thank the members and staff of the House Ethics Committee including Chairman Ted Deutch and Ranking Member Jackie Walorski for their leadership and for allowing me to work alongside them in the Committee's pursuit of justice. And most importantly, I would like to thank my incredible wife Kimberly, who is also here today, for her unrelenting love and support. I am truly blessed to have her by my side.

I am a proud third-generation Washingtonian from a family of military service, civil servants, clergy, nurses, and social workers. My parents dedicated their professional careers to government service and their retirement years to caring for children in need by serving as foster parents to over one hundred and twenty children, and opening a treatment foster care agency. My parents taught me from an early age the importance of giving back to the community and living by the principle that "to whom much is given, much is required in return." Following in their public service footsteps, I began my legal career clerking for the Honorable James R. Spencer of the Eastern District of Virginia. During my clerkship, I witnessed first-hand the characteristics that make a good judge, such as patience, respect, and impartiality. I went on to work for the law firm of Arnold & Porter, here in Washington, D.C., where I learned to handle large and complex legal matters. For seven years, I served as an Assistant United States Attorney ("AUSA") in the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. During my tenure as an AUSA, I represented the United States in more than one hundred civil cases in federal district and appellate courts. And for the past five years, I have had the honor of serving as Investigative Counsel for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics where I have investigated criminal and civil matters and helped prepare those matters for adjudication by the Committee.

It would be an honor to now use the tools, techniques, and skills that I have developed throughout my career to serve my fellow residents of the District of Columbia as an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. If confirmed, I will ensure that all litigants are treated fairly, I will faithfully enforce the rule of law, and I will be steadfast in upholding the Constitution. Thank you again for considering my nomination and I look forward to answering your questions.