

Opening Statement of Michael A. Hughes
Nominee, U.S. Marshal, Superior Court of the District of Columbia
November 8, 2011

Thank you Chairman Lieberman, Ranking Member Collins, and all the members of the committee, for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am grateful and honored by the opportunity to be here and for your consideration of my qualifications to be the United States Marshal for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. I would like to thank Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton for recommending me to the White House, as well as her Federal Law Enforcement Nominating Commission for their endorsement of my qualifications. I am thankful to President Barack Obama for nominating me. My thanks as well to the Senate Committee staff for their professionalism and guidance that they provided throughout this process.

I am delighted to have many family, friends and colleagues here today. I would like to recognize and express my sincere gratitude to my family who are here with me today as well as those who could not make it: John and Thomasina Hughes; John and Kathleen Hughes; Linda and John Hadginikitas; Tomianne and Scott Pagano; and all my nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins. I am very grateful to my family for their wisdom, wonderful humor and unconditional love throughout my life. I would like to thank Jarl Jonas, who provided me with unwavering encouragement and guidance throughout this process. Finally, I would like to thank all my friends, colleagues and mentors for their encouragement and support.

I am honored to have spent my last 20 years as a career U.S. Marshals Service employee. I have had the opportunity to serve in a vast array of areas both in the field and at the headquarters level including court security, fugitive investigations, asset forfeiture, protective operations, human resources, tactical operations and on various multi-agency task forces. I have served in positions including Deputy U.S. Marshal, Supervisory Inspector in our Witness Security Division, Supervisor of the Deputy Attorney General's Protection Detail, Chief of our Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) at the OCDETF Fusion Center, Chief of our Office of Operational Staffing and Recruitment in our Human Resources Division, Acting Deputy Assistant Director in our Human Resources Division, and Chief of our Office of Crisis Services in our Tactical Operations Division. I have also had the privilege to serve as a legislative fellow from 2003-2004 here in the U.S. Senate. I am very honored to be associated with the brave and dedicated men and women of the U.S. Marshals Service.

As a proud resident of the District of Columbia for more than 10 years, I am moved to be before you today as a nominee to be the U.S. Marshal for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. If confirmed for this position, I look forward to the opportunity to utilize my knowledge and practical skills acquired over the course of my career to lead this office with honor and integrity while serving the residents of my community. Thank you very much for your time and consideration of my nomination and I look forward to answering your questions.