

**Opening Statement**  
**Nomination of Mr. Daniel J. Kaniewski to be a Deputy Administrator for Protection and National Preparedness**  
**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

**Nomination of Mr. Jonathan H. Pittman to be Associate Judge on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia**

Good morning. Today we will consider the nomination of Daniel Kaniewski to be Deputy Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Protection and National Preparedness, as well as the nomination of Jonathan Pittman for the position of Associate Judge on the Superior Court for the District of Columbia.

The Committee takes these nominations very seriously, and so we are pleased to have strong nominees before us.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency serves our citizens and first responders by coordinating federal and non-governmental resources to prepare for, protect against, respond to and recover from domestic disasters. It is essential we have strong leadership in place at FEMA to fully support our communities in times of disaster.

Daniel Kaniewski received his undergraduate degree and Ph.D from George Washington University and a Master's degree from Georgetown University.

Mr. Kaniewski has had an impressive career in both the public and private sector that makes him well qualified to serve in his nominated role at FEMA. These include, serving as Special Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Senior Director of Response Policy; Mission Area Director for Resilience for the Homeland Security Studies & Analysis Institute; Vice President for Global Resilience for AIR Worldwide, a catastrophe risk modeling and consulting firm; and as a Commissioner of the District of Columbia Homeland Security Commission.

We have spoken to Mr. Kaniewski's colleagues and affiliates, who spoke highly of his competence, skill, and work ethic. Two former FEMA Administrators with the Obama Administration and Former DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff have submitted written comments in support for Mr. Kaniewski's nomination. His nomination is supported by both the National and International Association of Emergency Managers.

The committee is confident Mr. Kaniewski is qualified to be the Deputy Administrator for National Preparedness.

Mr. Pittman, received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vassar College, and a law degree from Vanderbilt University. After graduation, Mr. Pittman clerked for the Honorable John A. Terry, an Associate Judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

Following his clerkship, Mr. Pittman practiced law at the firm Crowell & Moring and then later joined the Civil Litigation Division in the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, where he currently serves as an Acting Assistant Deputy Attorney General.

Committee staff reached out to numerous colleagues of Mr. Pittman, and the comments were uniformly positive, with specific praise given to his decency and professional manner, strong analytical skills and superb writing.

Staff interviewed both nominees on an array of issues, and each has thoughtfully and competently answered each question.

To date, the Committee has found you to be qualified for the position you have been nominated.

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