

Chairman Peters Opening Statement As Prepared for Delivery
Full Committee Hearing: DC Judges
June 4, 2024

The Committee will come to order.

Today, we are considering five nominees to be Associate Judges on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia: Sherri Beatty-Arthur, Rahkel Bouchet, Erin Johnston, Ray McKenzie, and John Truong.

Welcome to each of the nominees and to your friends and family members joining us today. Congratulations on your nominations and thank you for your willingness to take on the challenging role of a D.C. Superior Court Judge.

The D.C. Superior Court functions as the state-level trial court here in the nation's capital. The court handles some of the highest case volumes in the country and is strained further by extended vacancies on the bench. Every day, Judges on the Superior Court decide matters that impact the freedom, livelihoods, and safety of individuals and families across the District of Columbia.

Currently 13 of the 62 seats on the court are vacant – delaying cases and placing serious burdens on current judges. This Committee has advanced seven Superior Court nominees this Congress, but most are still waiting to be confirmed by the full Senate.

I am glad that we will be voting on two of these nominees later today: Tanya Jones Bosier and Judith Pipe. Both currently serve as Magistrate Judges on the Superior Court and have dedicated their legal careers to serving the people of the District of Columbia.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting these well qualified nominees – and I hope we will be able to fill the remaining vacancies on the court soon.

To the nominees here today, I look forward to learning more about your qualifications and plans for serving on the Superior Court bench.