

OPENING STATEMENT OF JUDITH EMILY PIPE
Nominee to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia
September 21, 2023

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I am humbled and honored to appear before you today as a nominee to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. I would like to thank each of you for considering my nomination and the committee's staff for their hard work in preparing for this hearing. I thank the D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission and its chair, the Honorable Marie Johns, for recommending me to the White House and President Joseph Biden for nominating me. I wish to recognize and thank Chief Judge Anita Josey-Herring for her leadership and support and former Chief Judge Robert Morin for encouraging me throughout my career and for appointing me to my current position as a Magistrate Judge in Superior Court.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge my family, whose support has been critical to me reaching this honor of being before you today. First, to my husband Chris Pipe for his patience, support, and encouragement since the first day we met 21 years ago. Together, we have raised two amazing children. They are my greatest pride and joy and I cannot wait to see the amazing adults and community members they will undoubtedly become.

I would like to thank my parents, Dr. Jeffrey Malka and Dr. Susan Gelfand Malka, who have unconditionally supported me throughout my life. They have constantly emphasized and exemplified that a life of service to your community is a life well lived. I would like to thank my sisters Jennifer Rudo and Deborah Friedman who have also led lives of service to their communities—Jennifer is a special education teacher and Deborah is an oncology nurse. A special thank you to my oldest sister Dorothy Malka who has lived her whole life paralyzed and with a significant brain injury. She is the kindest and gentlest person I know and has been a constant inspiration to me.

I have dedicated my legal career to public service in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. I currently serve as a Magistrate Judge in both the Criminal and Domestic Violence Divisions of Superior Court. Since my appointment to that position in January of 2020, I have served on some of the most high-volume calendars and presided over hundreds of arraignments, preliminary hearings, and domestic violence temporary protection order hearings. In 2022, I was assigned to a misdemeanor traffic calendar where I presided over a dozen bench trials; hundreds of guilty pleas; sentencings; and a variety of other hearings that occur in the life a criminal case. In that role, I cleared a backlog of cases that had accumulated over the pandemic by setting reasonable deadlines and coming to the courtroom prepared on the law and the facts. On every calendar I have presided over, I have consistently and repeatedly demonstrated my commitment to neutrality by objectively applying the law to the facts in every case before me.

Prior to my appointment as a magistrate judge I served first as a staff attorney and then as a supervising attorney at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. In that role, I handled hundreds of cases from their arraignment to their conclusion in Superior Court. As a litigator, I was in court daily and appeared before dozens of current and former judges of

Superior Court. I am thankful to have those Judges support me throughout my career and during this process.

It has been a great honor serve the District of Columbia community in Superior Court. I am humbled by the opportunity, if confirmed, to continue my commitment to public service and the rule of law by becoming an Associate Judge. I thank you for considering my nomination and I look forward to answering any questions you have.