

**Opening Statement of John Cuong Truong**  
**Nominee to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia**

Good morning, Chairman Peters, Ranking Member Paul, and members of the Committee. I thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today for consideration of my nomination to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. I also want to thank your dedicated and hardworking staff for the hearing today. I am tremendously grateful and honored to be nominated by President Joseph Biden this year and by former President Donald Trump in 2020. I also want to thank the D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission and its Chair, the Honorable Marie Johns, as well as the former Chair, Judge Emmet Sullivan, for recommending me to the White House.

I can say with great humility and honesty that I would not have attained my accomplishments without Judge Ricardo M. Urbina of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, for whom I had the privilege to clerk. His mentorship and friendship have guided me throughout my professional and personal life. I also want to thank former U.S. Attorneys Channing Phillips and Jessie Liu, and the current U.S. Attorney, Matthew Graves. I am very fortunate to have served under each of these extraordinary leaders.

I am very grateful for the support of my family and friends. I am the proud husband of Sabrina Vasa, an accomplished attorney and an amazing mother. We are truly blessed to have two loving daughters, four-year-old Priyanka and two-year-old Anjali, who are the most fun and funny tiny humans I know. They are the love and joy of my life, and they are my greatest achievement.

I also want to thank my younger brother, Kent, who is my role model, and my sister-in-law, Dr. Ngoc Bui, for their love and support. I am a proud uncle to my niece, Grace, who is a rising junior at George Washington University and my nephew, Ben, a rising senior in high school. I reserve a special thanks to my mother-in-law, Elizabeth Preeti Vickers, who is kind and generous with her time and love, and is a doting grandmother.

Ultimately, who I am as a person, is all attributable to my parents, Brian Truong and Mai Nguyen. My parents made a courageous decision to separate our family to save our lives, not knowing whether we would see each other again. My father and I escaped from Vietnam first in a fishing boat and landed in a refugee camp in Hong Kong, and eventually immigrated to the United States. A year later, my mother and younger brother traversed that same perilous journey, and the entire family was thankfully reunited as “boat people” refugees in this country. My parents had little in personal possessions and did not know the language of our adopted home, but they were filled with hope and faith in this country. They instilled in me the value of education, good work ethic, and perseverance. My parents worked hard and made sacrifices so that I can be here today.

I have been a part of the D.C. legal community for more than twenty-five years. I began as a federal judicial law clerk and went on to private practice, where I worked on complex civil litigation for six years. I later joined the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia. During my nineteen years as a civil and criminal Assistant U.S. Attorney I gained a broad spectrum of legal experiences, including five years when I worked exclusively in the Criminal Division where I prosecuted misdemeanor and felony crimes in the District of Columbia. In 2022, I was promoted

to become a Deputy Chief for the Civil Division where I supervise and counsel Assistant U.S. Attorneys in all aspects of federal district court litigation.

It has been a great honor representing the United States to enforce the law and defend its interests in court. I hope to now have the opportunity to serve the members of this community in a new role if confirmed to serve as an Associate Judge.

Thank you again for considering my nomination. I look forward to answering any questions that the Committee may have.