

**Chairman Peters Opening Statement As Prepared for Delivery
Full Committee Hearing: Nominations of Errol R. Arthur, Kendra D. Briggs, and Carl
Ezekiel Ross to be Associate Judges, Superior Court of the District of Columbia
July 12, 2022**

Today we are considering three nominations, Kendra Briggs, Errol Arthur, and Carl Ross to be Associate Judges on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Welcome to each of the nominees and to your family members who are joining us today. Thank you all for your previous public service and your willingness to serve in these important new roles.

The D.C. Superior Court, which operates as the state-level trial court in the nation's capital, has one of the highest per-capita rates of cases filed. According to the National Center for State Courts, 83,000 new cases are filed across its five divisions every year.

Unfortunately, the D.C. Superior Court is suffering from extensive judicial vacancies that have placed serious burdens on every division, increased the workloads for current judges, and delayed resolutions for the parties before the court.

I am pleased to have three well-qualified nominees to the Superior Court today, each with a longstanding commitment to public service, and commendable legal abilities and professionalism.

If confirmed, you will decide matters that impact the freedom, livelihoods, and families of many of the individuals who come before you.

Today's hearing is an important opportunity for the Committee to learn more about your qualifications and how you plan to serve in these new roles.