

Chairman Peters Opening Statement As Prepared for Delivery
Full Committee Hearing: Nominations of Tovah R. Calderon to be an Associate Judge,
District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and Kenia Seoane Lopez, Rupa R. Puttagunta, and
Sean C. Staples to be Associate Judges, Superior Court of the District of Columbia
September 14, 2021

Today we are considering four nominations, Tovah R. Calderon to be an Associate Judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and Rupa Ranga Puttagunta, Kenia Seoane Lopez, and Sean C. Staples, to be Associate Judges on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Welcome to each of the nominees and 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. You have each been nominated to serve in critical roles in the unique justice system here in our nation's capital. As judges, you will decide matters that impact the freedom, livelihoods, and families of many of the individuals who come before you.

I am pleased to have four well-qualified nominees before us today, each with a longstanding commitment to public service. Throughout the nomination process, this Committee has heard nothing but praise for your legal abilities and professionalism.

Today's hearing is an important opportunity for me and my colleagues to ask questions about your qualifications, and I look forward to hearing more about how you plan to serve.