

Opening Statement of William W. Nooter
Nominee for Associate Judge, District of Columbia Superior Court
October 8, 2013

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to appear before you as a nominee for a position as an Associate Judge in the District of Columbia Superior Court. I am grateful to the Judicial Nomination Commission and its chair, Judge Emmet Sullivan, for recommending me to the White House, and am grateful to the President for nominating me to this position. Thank you Congresswoman Norton for your kind words in introducing me this afternoon. I would also like to thank the Committee and its staff for handling this process expeditiously, despite all the other pressing matters pending before the Senate.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Chief Judge Lee F. Satterfield for his support and leadership. I also want to recognize my wife, Elissa Free, my father, Robert H. Nooter, my brother, Robert I. Nooter and his wife Barbara, my staff, Denine Murray and Thomas Kinney, and other friends and colleagues who have taken the time to be here today. My daughter, Amanda, who attends college in Iowa, my mother, Nancy Nooter, and my other siblings could not be here, but thanks to the wonders of modern technology, they can watch the re-runs on the Senate's website. One other person who I would like to introduce is Damian Miller, a young man with whom I became acquainted in the Family Court who has successfully emancipated from the foster care system. He not only made the Dean's List at Hampton University, but is now the Special Assistant to the Director of the Child and Family Services Agency, the District of Columbia's child welfare agency. I am so pleased that he can be here today.

I was born in St. Louis, Missouri, but landed in Washington D.C. as a teenager and never left. My legal career of over thirty years has been spent primarily in D.C. Superior Court, first as a law student attorney and judicial law clerk for the Honorable Tim Murphy, then as a trial attorney with the Office of the Corporation Counsel, in private practice with Jordan, Coyne & Savits and finally as a Magistrate Judge. The length and breadth of my practice, as a prosecutor, defense attorney, civil practitioner in both government and private practice, and my thirteen years as a judicial officer have well prepared me to take on the additional responsibilities of an Associate Judge. I have had the opportunity to serve on many court committees and to take on leadership roles within the Court, which have only deepened my love and respect for this vital institution that administers justice to the citizens of our City. I would be greatly honored to continue to serve the Superior Court and the citizens of the District of Columbia as an Associate Judge, if confirmed.

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