

**Opening Statement of Jason Park**  
**Nominee to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Superior Court**  
**April 2, 2019**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to appear before you as you consider my nomination to serve as an Associate Judge on the Superior Court for the District of Columbia. It is a great honor to be here today. I would like to thank the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission and its chair, the Honorable Judge Emmett Sullivan, who is kind enough to be here today, for recommending me to the White House, and I thank the President for nominating me. I would also like to thank the Committee staff for their hard work, as well as Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton for her support.

I am also grateful to my friends and colleagues, some of whom are here today, including my exemplary current boss, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Jessie Liu, and the Honorable Judge Kelly Higashi, my former chief in the sex offense section at the U.S. Attorney's Office and an extraordinary colleague, mentor, and friend.

I am joined today by my wife Kati Daffan and our oldest son, Elliot, who is seven. Our younger son, Oliver, is four and is in school today. It is impossible to express how much I owe to my family and in particular to my wife Kati, without whom I would not be here today. I want acknowledge my parents, Dr. Duk-Won Park and Sunja Park, who traveled from Alabama to be here. My parents came to this country nearly 50 years ago, and over the years and decades, they built a home that has served as the foundation for everything my sisters and I have been blessed with. I am grateful they could be here today.

I first came to Washington D.C. 16 years ago to attend law school at Georgetown. After graduating and spending a few years practicing commercial litigation at an international law firm in New York, my wife and I returned permanently to the District 10 years ago. We are proud to call this City our home. Upon returning to the District, I was fortunate enough to serve as a law clerk to the Honorable Judge Ricardo M. Urbina of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, who remains an inspiration and mentor to me to this day. I then spent a short time as a defense attorney at a large law firm here in D.C., where I represented individuals who were the subject of investigation and prosecution by various entities.

For the last seven years, I have had the distinct privilege of serving the citizens of our city as an Assistant United States Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. Currently, I serve as the Chief of the Major Crimes Section of the Office's Superior Court Division, where, with my three deputy chiefs, I supervise more than 20 AUSAs prosecuting violent crime cases in D.C. Superior Court. For the majority of my career, I served as a prosecutor in the sex offense and domestic violence section, investigating and prosecuting child sex abuse, child physical abuse, sexual assault, and child exploitation cases in the D.C. Superior Court and federal district court. I have had the great privilege of working closely with survivors, witnesses, and families from all parts of this city. I have also been fortunate enough to appear before and try cases in front of many of the exemplary judges of the Superior Court.

It would be an honor to continue my public service as an Associate Judge on the Superior Court for the District of Columbia. Thank you again for considering my nomination and I look forward to answering your questions.