

Opening Statement of Veronica M. Sanchez
Nominee to be Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Chairman Peters, Ranking Member Portman, and members of the Committee, it is an honor and a privilege to appear before you today as a nominee to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. I extend my thanks to each of you and your dedicated Committee staff for all the hard work that has gone into considering my nomination. I would also like to thank the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission and its chair, the Honorable Emmet Sullivan, for recommending me to the White House, and I am thankful to President Joseph Biden for nominating me to this position. I must also thank the current U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Mathew Graves, and former U.S. Attorneys Channing Phillips, Jessie Liu, Ronald Machen, and Vincent Cohen for their support and guidance throughout my career as a prosecutor. I also thank my current and former colleagues from the United States Attorney's Office; it is an honor to work with all of you.

I reserve special thanks for the people in my life who are here because they love and support me in my home, my work and my community. My husband is here today. He is my best friend, my partner in life, and my biggest advocate. Thank you for your encouragement and support of all my personal and professional endeavors. I want to take a moment to thank my two children for their patience and support during the times where they have had to share their time with me due to the demands of my job. I love you both.

My father is here today while my mother and brother watch and support me from South Florida and Texas. I was born in Nicaragua and was fortunate to come to the United States a few months before my eighth birthday. My parents came to this country seeking a better future for their children. I would not be here today without the many sacrifices made by my parents who taught me through their words and actions the values of hard work, integrity, fairness, and service. I also want to thank the rest of my family and friends from all over the country for their support and prayers throughout this process.

I have dedicated my career to public service, hoping to give back to the country that has afforded me and so many others the opportunity to turn dreams into reality. I began my legal career by clerking for the Honorable Edward C. Reed for the United States District Court for the District of Nevada. I also had the honor of clerking for the Honorable Melvin Brunetti for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. I moved to the District of Columbia in 2002 after joining the Department of Justice's Honors Program with the Antitrust Division. I spent six years as a trial attorney in the Antitrust Division handling civil antitrust matters prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. Since 2009, I have served as an Assistant United States Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia where I have handled a wide range of criminal cases on behalf of the United States. I have handled over twenty trials in the Superior Court and have investigated and prosecuted misdemeanor, felonies, homicides and fraud matters. Throughout my legal career I have sought to uphold the law and the values of fairness and justice. If I am confirmed, it will be both an honor and a privilege to continue to serve the residents of the District of Columbia as an Associate Judge on the Superior Court.

Thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you today. I look forward to answering your questions.