

**Opening Statement of Carmen Guerricagoitia McLean  
Nominee to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Superior Court  
July 19, 2018**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to appear before you as you consider my nomination to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. It is a great honor to be nominated and considered for this position. I would like to thank the Judicial Nomination Commission and its chair, the Honorable Emmet Sullivan, for recommending me to the White House, and the President for nominating me. I also would like to thank Congresswoman Norton for her support. Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Committee members and the dedicated Committee staff for their hard work, for considering my nomination, and for the courtesy and professionalism they have extended to me throughout this process.

Here with me today is my husband, William Carson McLean, to whom I am immeasurably grateful for his unwavering encouragement, and my children, eight year old Coen and five year old Cait, who inspired me to reach for my dream of becoming a judge. I love you all dearly. I would also like to recognize my mother, Marcia Rush, also here with me today; my sister, Darcy Guerricagoitia, a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy; and other members of my family who have been endlessly supportive and are watching from afar. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the many friends and colleagues, several of whom are here today, who have guided and encouraged me in a myriad of ways over the years. Thank you all for your kind and unwavering support.

In August of 1998, I moved from rural Oregon to the District of Columbia to attend Georgetown University Law Center and I have lived here ever since. In 2001, I began working just a few blocks from here, at Washington office of Jones Day, an international law firm. During my nearly seventeen years at Jones Day, I have been privileged to work with many brilliant, strategic, and hard-working attorneys; represent influential and innovative clients in a variety of industries, including digital music, automotive, and pharmacology; and work on large scale litigation matters involving complex and novel legal issues. I am extremely grateful for the lessons I have learned through these experiences and from my talented colleagues, and for the honor of working at Jones Day.

During my time at Jones Day I have also dedicated a great deal of time to pro bono and public service matters impacting citizens of the District of Columbia. While I have worked on a range of matters, I have spent the vast majority of my time in the service of at-risk children who need safe, permanent, and loving homes. Through these matters, I saw first-hand the impact of our justice system on individual lives and was motivated to further my public service. Through this work, I also frequently appeared before District of Columbia Superior Court judges who demonstrated a mastery of relevant laws, rules, and procedures; treated all litigants with dignity and respect; maintained high standards for counsel; were deliberate in their application of the law to the facts; and provided thoughtful and timely decisions. If I am fortunate enough to be confirmed, that is exactly the type of judge I will work very hard to be.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to appear today. I am humbled to be considered for this position, and I look forward to answering your questions.