

**Statement of Richard S. Tischner**  
**Nominee to be Director of the**  
**Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia**  
**Before the**  
**Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee**  
**United States Senate**

**November 15, 2018**

Thank you, Chairman Johnson, Ranking Member McCaskill, and members of the committee. I am grateful for your holding this hearing today to consider my nomination. I am truly honored by the nomination and, if confirmed, stand ready to work alongside other leaders in the District of Columbia criminal justice system to continue enhancing public safety in the Nation's Capital.

CSOSA plays a critical role in providing public safety for those who live, work, and visit the District of Columbia. It strives to reduce recidivism by promoting successful adjustment to supervision by probationers and those returning to the community after a period of incarceration. In those instances where individuals reoffend, timely coordination with criminal justice partners is key. If confirmed as Director, I look forward to working with the talented and dedicated professionals at CSOSA to achieve these goals.

I would also be honored to continue my more than thirty years not only in public service, but in the pursuit of public safety. As a career prosecutor, I have always done my best to fairly and effectively address violations of the law, hold offenders accountable, and attain justice for victims and the citizens of the District of Columbia.

I am especially proud of my service as Chief of the Superior Court Division, where I am responsible for leading the U.S. Attorney's Office's largest division in the investigation and prosecution of most local crimes committed by adults in the District of Columbia. I am honored to work with hundreds of dedicated Assistant United States Attorneys, paralegals, and other staff members as we address a wide range of offenses. These range from misdemeanor offenses that affect the quality of life in the District to complicated violent offenses, including sexual assaults and homicides. The Division handles between 17,000 and 20,000 cases on an annual basis and employs a problem-solving approach, rather than simply processing cases through the system. Under my leadership, it works closely with its law enforcement partners and the community to identify public safety issues and to craft pragmatic solutions.

Having spent most of my career in the United States Attorney's Office working on strictly local criminal justice issues, I am keenly aware of the challenges faced by the entities obligated to provide public safety for this community. I have not only been a prosecutor in the traditional

sense, but I have also worked as a community prosecutor where I was tasked with solving complicated problems and issues impacting residents and neighborhoods throughout the District of Columbia. Additionally, my service in the DC Superior Court's drug court and mental health court has given me a broader perspective of the problems faced by those in the criminal justice system. Finally, my relationships with law enforcement, partner agencies, and the community will serve the citizens of the District of Columbia well if I am confirmed.

Thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you today and for your continued support of public safety efforts in the District of Columbia. I also want to express my gratitude to the staff of this Committee for their work in considering my nomination. I look forward to your questions.