

Chairman Braun, Ranking Member Carper, and distinguished members of this subcommittee, I am humbled and honored to come before you as the nominee to be the Inspector General of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I am grateful to the President for nominating me to such an important position, I am grateful to all of you and your staff, for considering my nomination, and for taking the time to meet with me prior to this hearing, and I am thankful that my family and friends could join me here today.

Seated behind me is my amazing wife of 25 years, Caroline, who is truly the love of my life, and my two beautiful daughters, who are quickly growing up to be such accomplished young women; I'm incredibly proud of them. Also with me here today, my brother, my sister-in-law, and several of my dear friends who were kind enough to join me---thank you to you all.

I'd like to begin by saying that I see the Inspector General role as critical, for effective, efficient, and fair government. The Inspector General is literally on the front lines in the fight against waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement. The Inspector General must be non-partisan, and a-political, as I am. I've worked through four administrations, two Democratic, and two Republican. The Inspector General must be unmoved by ever changing political winds and constantly evolving threats of undue influence. It requires a person with the utmost integrity, honesty, independence, and fairness. I believe that I possess each of these

character traits, as well as the substantive skill sets required of a government watchdog for the American people.

I've been a lawyer for 29 years, and nearly 25 of those 29 years have been in public service, which for me is truly a calling, not just an occupation. When I first entered federal service in 1995, I was thrilled to be joining what is still the nation's pre-eminent law enforcement organization, the Federal Bureau of Investigation. As one might imagine, the legal issues confronting the FBI on a daily basis were, and continue to be, considerable and challenging, but the experience I gained there would prove to be very beneficial as I embarked on a career as a federal prosecutor.

As a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia, my felony work focused on white collar fraud cases, and I was fortunate enough to be able to bring two of those cases to jury trial.

Afterwards, I served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, where I spent twelve years honing my investigative, writing, and trial advocacy skills, working on matters ranging from bank fraud to the most violent of offenses, and everything in between.

During my tenure there, I enhanced my national security *bona fides*, through my assignment to the President's Executive Order Task Force for the Review of

Guantanamo Bay Detainees. This Task Force was a massive undertaking, a comprehensive audit and investigation of over 200 detainees, effectively an in-depth assessment of human capital from a range of perspectives. It was a bipartisan, collaborative, inter-agency effort across the United States government, bringing together diverse interests, competing agendas, and varied political ideologies. And yet, despite all of these profound differences, the Task Force fulfilled its audit and investigative mission effectively and on time, producing a comprehensive report for Congress, to facilitate the most informed decision making going forward.

No matter where I've worked, however, and no matter how tremendous the responsibility, I've never lost sight of the need for strict compliance with constitutional norms, candor with the tribunal, and strict compliance with the rule of law.

Indeed, I see myself as a servant of the law. To me, this means doggedly pursuing the truth, wherever that road may lead, unphased by fear or favor, unswayed by passion or prejudice, and unwavering in my commitment to justice and fairness.

Most recently I've been working for the Capital Case Section, perhaps the smallest litigating section in the Department of Justice in terms of size, but

certainly one of the largest in the context of ethical weight and responsibility. In this role, I am an advisor to the Attorney General of the United States and his Review Committee, insuring fairness and consistency in the decision making process on the appropriateness of seeking capital punishment in federal cases across the country. And on occasion, I present these cases to juries, who must make the most difficult choice any juror ever faces. Thus, I'm no stranger to working on issues that are exceedingly complex, and which draw fervent, passionate, competing views, because they are truly life-and-death issues.

Senators, I hope you will agree that my extensive experience and background, born of a quarter century of service to this country, make me a promising candidate for the Inspector General position. I'm seeking your support, and I look forward to your questions. Thank you.