

Judge YEAKEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving us the opportunity to answer questions very important, I know, to the Senate and also the people of this country.

I have been fortunate for the past 5 years to serve on the Texas Court of Appeals and during that period of time have never really thought about putting a tag on judicial philosophy. And if I'm fortunate enough to be confirmed by the Senate of the United States to the position of United States district judge, that will again be my goal.

I think that what I strive to do and what I have strived to do over the past 5 years is to resolve the issue that is in front of the court by strict adherence to precedent and the canons of statutory construction. And if you do that, you seldom get in trouble. It is very difficult for me to improve upon what my four colleagues have said today. I tried lawsuits for 29 years and appealed them before I went on the court of appeals. I echo their remarks that judicial temperament is of great importance, that litigants and their attorneys should be treated not only fairly but courteously before the courts of this Nation. And I give you that pledge, again, if I'm fortunate enough to get the advice and consent from the Senate.

Senator GRAHAM. I would like the record to reflect that Senator Cantwell was present at the Committee in support of Judge Suko and that is a former Committee member, and we want to acknowledge her input and presence here today.

In summary, I am a lawyer, and I think most lawyers love to be in front of judges that are at least halfway nice and understanding of our failings. And it seems to me from what we have here today very nice people who have had extraordinary backgrounds, understand the humble part of being a judge, which is a big deal to me. And you will all serve our Nation well. This is a demanding, tough job you are about to embark upon. The fact that you were nominated speaks so well of you and your families, and I hope you find the nomination process rewarding. And I am honored to have been the Chairman while you were here.

Thank you for your willingness to serve our country. Thank you very much.

Senator GRAHAM. Panel four, Karen Tandy and Mr. Wray. Raise your right hand. Do each of you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give before the Committee is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. WRAY. Yes, sir.

Ms. TANDY. I do.

Senator GRAHAM. Thank you. Do you have an opening statement, Ms. Tandy?

**STATEMENT OF KAREN P. TANDY, NOMINEE TO BE ADMINISTRATOR, DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Ms. TANDY. Yes, thank you so much for permitting me to appear before the Committee today, Senator, and I also want to thank the Senators from Virginia for their statements for the record on my behalf and for the support of Senator Hutchison from Texas.

I am extremely delighted to have my family with me, who were introduced previously: my husband, Steve, and our daughters

Lauren and Kimberly. But I also am privileged to recognize, Senator, a true hero with DEA, and that is Jack Lawn, who is with me today and is not only a hero to DEA but a mentor of mine. As you may recall, he valiantly led DEA through some of its greatest challenges and certainly handled with heroic valor the aftermath of the kidnapping, torture, and killing of DEA Special Agent Enrique Camarena.

It is an honor, Senator, to have been nominated by President Bush, and I am so grateful to the men and women of the Drug Enforcement Administration for being a part of my 25 years of public service and for the possible opportunity to serve this President and warrant the confidence that both President Bush and Attorney General Ashcroft have placed in me.

The opportunity to lead the courageous and enormously talented almost 10,000 men and women of DEA would not have been possible, Senator, without Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder from the prior administration, who gave me the opportunity to work in his office for the last year of that administration, and certainly not without my present boss, Deputy Attorney General Larry Thompson, whose extraordinary leadership has enabled me, along with his support, to restore the OCDEF program to its original mission.

I want to thank you, Senator, and this Committee lastly for your incredible support and valiant efforts in the battle against drugs over the past years and also, Senator, for the assistance of this Committee specifically to DEA over the 30 years of its existence.

If I am so fortunate to be confirmed by this Committee, I pledge to you, Senator, my unwavering support for the President, his goals of reducing drug supply and drug use in this country, and I pledge to do my utmost for the security of this country and for our future generations.

Thank you.

[The biographical information of Ms. Tandy follows:]