

**STATEMENT OF MARY T. BOYLE, NOMINEE TO BE A COMMISSIONER,  
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION**

Good morning Chair Cantwell, Ranking Member Wicker, and distinguished members of the Committee. As the current Executive Director of the U.S Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and a member of the Senior Executive Service, I am deeply honored to be considered for an appointment as a Commissioner of the CPSC, and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify today.

I also want to thank my husband of 30 years, EJ Dionne, for his unwavering support as well as my three adult children, James, Julia, and Margot. I was a stay-at-home mom for many years, the job I consider to be the most important one I have held. Their love and enthusiastic support of my professional career is a source of great joy to me.

I also want to thank and recognize the current members of the Commission: Acting Chairman Robert Adler, Elliot Kaye, Dana Baiocco, and Peter Feldman. I have seen up close their commitment to advancing the critical CPSC safety mission, and if I am fortunate enough to receive confirmation, I look forward to working with Commissioners Baiocco and Feldman, and my fellow nominees, Alex Hoehn-Saric and Richard Trumka, Jr. to continue advancing that mission on behalf of the American people.

I have had a lifelong commitment to public service and a strong belief in the power of our government to protect the public, particularly the most vulnerable. Let me briefly explain why.

I grew up in Brooklyn, New York and am the fifth of six children. All brothers, I might add. My father died when I was seven years old and I grew up in a single parent household, raised by my mother. Through her incredible strength and love, my siblings and I thrived despite difficult circumstances and few resources: All of us attended college, the first generation in our family to do so.

If she were here today, my mother would downplay everything she did to nurture our success. Instead, she would point to all of the help we received from our community, from our church—and, she would always say—from the government, pointing to social security, Pell grants, and other assistance we received along the way. My mother, who worked for many years as a hospital secretary to support us, would have been very wrong to downplay her role—she was a remarkable person—but very much right about the importance of the government in providing a safety net for my family.

And to me, that is exactly what the CPSC does: it provides a safety net for the public. I have served in a variety of roles since coming to the CPSC more than ten years ago—as Deputy General Counsel, General Counsel, and now as Executive Director—and I have been working to help ensure that that safety net is in place as broadly

possible. I believe strongly that consumers need to be able to go about their daily lives without worrying that products they interact with every day—washing machines, cell phones, batteries, toys, and treadmills to name just a few—do not injure, maim, or kill them. My experience as a mother has taught me the particular importance of the CPSC's role in protecting children and in helping parents avoid the heartbreaking consequences caused by unsafe products. If I am confirmed, I am committed to bringing special focus to protecting this vulnerable population.

Consumers expect products to be safe. They *deserve* products to be safe. It is our responsibility to make sure that happens, using all of the tools at our disposal to do so: through recalls, rulemaking, litigation, regulatory enforcement, work with voluntary standards organizations, and timely communication of information to the public.

In closing, I would like to pay tribute to CPSC career staff, of which I have had the privilege of being a part for more than a decade. Their professionalism, commitment to public service, and dedication to the CPSC mission inspire me every day. It has been my honor to work by their side, and if I am confirmed, I hope to make them proud. Thank you and I look forward to your questions.

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