

Chairman Wicker, Ranking Member Cantwell, and members of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, thank you for considering my nomination to be General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

It is a privilege to appear before you today.

Thank you, too, to the staff of the Committee for all the work you have done in preparing for this hearing.

I am especially grateful to President Trump for nominating me to this position, and for the continued support of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross.

And though they are not able to be here, I must also thank my wife, Emily and my children, Charlotte, Michael, Francis Xavier, and Nicholas, who are watching via the live Web stream, for all the sacrifices they have made during my tenure in public service.

I also want to thank my parents, my sister, her family, and all of my family members and friends who are watching from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia.

Finally, I would like to thank my wonderful colleagues at the Department of Commerce, with whom I have enjoyed working over the past two and a half years.

Prior to joining the Commerce Department as Deputy General Counsel in early 2018, I was a partner at an international law firm, where I litigated complex class action cases.

Since my arrival at the Department, I have been involved in many of the issues that encompass our agency's broad mission, including those associated with NOAA; NIST; Census; trade enforcement; the protection of intellectual property, patents, and trademarks; and economic and minority business development.

I have also supported the Bureau of Industry and Security's initiatives to secure our nation's defense industrial base, and to carefully and thoughtfully administer our export-control laws.

I understand the importance of compliance with the laws that dictate every aspect of the Commerce Department's operations.

If confirmed, I will ensure that these laws are upheld, and are being applied with the greatest programmatic integrity and transparency.

I also look forward to working with all members of this Committee on your ideas for new programs and policies aimed at rebuilding our industrial base, reshoring

essential industries, protecting American intellectual property from foreign predation, and creating millions of great jobs that will provide every American with the ability to pursue the American Dream.

I look forward to answering any questions and, again, I sincerely thank you for your consideration.