

Good morning Representative Lawlor, Senator MacDonald, Representative O'Neill, Senator Kissel, and members of the Judiciary Committee

My name is Corinne Klatt and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Governor Rell for this nomination and to tell you how deeply honored I am by this nomination.

I am a lifelong resident of Meriden, attending Meriden schools and graduating from Maloney High School in 1975. I graduated Saint Joseph College, West Hartford, Connecticut in 1979, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. I then attended University of Connecticut School of Law graduating in May of 1982 with my Juris Doctor. I was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in October, 1982. I have been married for twenty-five years to Hank Klatt. We have two children, Alyssa who is a student at Middlesex Community College and Douglas who is a senior at Wilcox Technical School.

I started my legal career briefly working for a private attorney in New Britain. In August, 1983, I was hired as a Staff Attorney in the Legal Assistance to Prisoners Program run by the Connecticut Prison Association. My employment there consisted of providing legal representation to Connecticut prisoners in all civil matters. I handled divorce, child custody, parental rights paternity and certain personal injury matters. I represented prisoners in pardon and parole hearings, Federal Civil rights actions and bankruptcy cases.

In April, 1985 I began my employment as a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney in the Waterbury Judicial District. I started in the Geographical Area court and within two years moved to the Part A court. I have tried every classification of criminal offense, and have taken over 60 cases to verdict as sole trial counsel. In 1994, I became Supervisory Assistant State's Attorney for G.A. #4 in Waterbury. I am responsible for the prosecution of criminal and motor vehicle cases as well as the administration of a busy G.A. office, with approximately 250 to 500 cases on the daily docket. With six attorneys under my supervision, we prosecute all criminal cases from misdemeanors to selected B felonies. I am known as a hands-on supervisor; I manage the pretrial and trial dockets along with my administrative duties. I have developed the ability to reach a

resolution in a criminal case that is satisfactory to all parties, state, defense, victim and police.

I have participated in the formation of several specialty dockets: Domestic Violence, Community Court and Drug Court. I am also a Certified Police Instructor for regional police training in legal issues and sex assault cases. I am a participating member of our multi-disciplinary team known as CAIT, which coordinates the activities of several state and police agencies in the prosecution of child abuse and sex abuse cases. I am certified in *Finding Words*, a forensic interviewing course for child sexual abuse victims.

Over the course of my legal career, I have balanced being a strong advocate for the State of Connecticut and at the same time treating all defendants and defense counsel with respect and dignity. I have earned not only the respect of the legal community in which I practice law, but also their trust.

I have spent nearly my entire legal career in public service in the courtrooms of the State of Connecticut. I seek a judicial appointment because I believe my legal knowledge and experience, my leadership skills and my personal temperament would contribute to the administration of justice in this state.

I look forward to your questions and again thank you for your consideration.