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Good morning Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor and members of the Judiciary Committee.

I would like to thank Governor Rell for nominating me to the parole board. This has been an honor for me and I thank all of you for this opportunity to meet with you.

I have been working for the board for the last 8 months making educated decisions on the release of inmates to parole and under what re-entry conditions. I feel with my background that I am an excellent candidate to continue in this position.

My career started in 1981 with the Department of Correction after completing my bachelors degree in Criminal Justice from Ohio State University. I started as a Correction Officer ending my DOC career as a Warden.

At the start of my career I was assigned to the then Niantic CC working as an officer for 3 years before being promoted to a Correctional Treatment Officer. I was provided the opportunity to be part of the opening of a new mental health unit for female offenders and overall better quality of services for females. I was promoted from there to a Correctional Counselor however soon after resumed my involvement with inmates with mental health issues when I was promoted to Radgowski as a Correctional Psychiatric treatment worker. There I had the opportunity to work with men with mental health issues as well as do groups with sex offenders.

I was next promoted to Counselor Supervisor at the New Haven CC where I spent from 1990-1992 before promoted to being one of the first Deputy Wardens of the Garner CI. I was involved in the opening of the facility and with the start of the mental health unit for inmates in Ct with severe mental health issues. In addition as a result of gang violence Warden Crose myself and a group of staff developed the close custody phase program for security risk group threat members. This program was successful and became nationally recognized as a model for other states.

I was next promoted as the Warden of Carl Robinson CI. There I was responsible for all aspects of the facility including the final decision on releasing inmates to Transitional supervision or community release.

From there I became a complex warden responsible for overseeing up to fifteen facilities over the next several years. I got a broad range of experience working in the Enfield/Somers area, the Cheshire facilities as well as Garner, Bpt and NHCC. Lastly moving back to the Southeastern part of the state overseeing the six facilities in that part of the state. When I retired I was the warden of York and had oversight of the JB Gates facility.

Over the course of my career public safety was always my primary focus. As a CO I was one of the first female member of the Correctional Emergency Response Team. Every facility I was involved with I was always trying to improve security. From the time I was deputy warden I was involved in Public Safety Meetings to keep town officials and concerned citizens up to date with information and address concerns the public may have had.

Prior to my nomination for the Board of Parole I have made thousands of release decisions over the course of my career and being a member of the Parole Board makes use of my experience and utilizes the tools I have been given in the DOC to make good decisions for the successful reentry into society for offenders.

Lastly, I will mention after my retirement I worked for 3 and a half years for North American Family Institute as the Program Director and Operations Director at the Stepping Stone program, a residential treatment facility for girls ages 12-17 on parole.

At this time I would be happy to answer any questions.