

Statement of Anna Ficeto
Nominated to be a DPUC Commissioner
Before the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee
February 16, 2010

Good afternoon Chairpersons Janowski Senator and Looney, Ranking Members Piscopo and McKinney and other members and Representative Janowski, Members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee.

Let me start me thanking Governor Rell for nominating me to this position be a Commissioner of the Department of Public Utility Control and for the honor of being here before you today.

As you may know I have served Governor Rell since May 2006, first as Ddeputy Cehief of Sstaff and currently as Chief Legal Counsel. I have been honored to serve the people of Connecticut since 1996 – serving in various roles at the Departments of Consumer Protection, Public Works, and Administrative Services. Prior to my service with the State of Connecticut, I was an attorney in the private practice of law for nearly six years.

More specifically, while at the Department of Consumer Protection, I had the opportunity to act as “complaint counsel” on numerous real estate, home improvement and occupational licensing cases. I also had the opportunity to act as hearing officer, or fact finder, in numerous instances, including liquor and CUTPA cases. This required that I hear testimony, take evidence and apply the law to the facts as presented when preparing a proposed final decision. I have been on both sides of the bench, so to speak, and understand what is necessary to present a successful case, believe I have been am a fair and proficient mediator.

My (?):

My work at the Departments of Consumer Protection and Public Works required me to draft numerous regulations and to shepard them through the regulatory process. As with all regulations, there are always numerous stakeholders. In order to navigate this and the process successfully, it was essential that I taught me to listened to all sides, regulatory from the

~~individual, consumer and to the large industries, and ultimately to draft regulations that were fair to everyone, imp, impartial and, well informed and, but most of all, in the best interests of the State.~~

I began working for the Department of Public Works during a rather tumultuous time in Connecticut's political history. I was charged with expanding the legal division to encompass ethics training and procurement reform, particularly with regard to contractor selection. I worked along side my many DPW colleagues to make the agency a better more accountable, more transparent, more streamlined and more efficient. ~~place.~~

On the personal front, I was born in Brooklyn, New York and moved to Connecticut when I was 9 years old after having lived in Italy for a year. I've been a resident of Wolcott for over twelve years and live with my husband Robert and our two sons, Christopher, an 8 year old in second grade and Nicholas, a 5 year old in kindergarten.

I am a first generation Italian-American. My father left Italy at the age of sixteen and found his way to the United States via a brief stint in Venezuela. He later returned to Italy and married my mother. They sought the typical American dream- a better life for themselves and their children. My parents have always worked hard and instilled in my brothers and me the value of hard work and education. I graduated from Mount Holyoke College and the University of Connecticut School of Law. ~~My oldest brother attended Amherst College and works in the insurance industry New York City. My youngest brother serves our country in the United States Army. He is a cardiologist currently stationed at Walter Reed Hospital and has served in Afghanistan.~~

In my spare time, between my sons' Cub Scouts, baseball and soccer activities, I have been a lector at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Waterbury for over ten years and have taught religious education there for the past three years.

If confirmed, I look forward to this next chapter of public service. I have been honored to serve the people of Connecticut for over thirteen years and look forward to continued service. I believe my background, in law, consumer advocacy, and agency administration will serve me well at the DPUC, a regulatory agency. I believe that being a good commissioner requires an ability to

balance the interests of consumers and the industry, and the ability to keep an open and impartial mind.

It is truly an honor for me to appear before this Committee for nomination to the DPUC as
Commissioner and I look forward to answering your inquiries and ultimately performing my duties with integrity, competence and humility. Thank you.