

Good Morning Chairman McDonald, Chairman Lawlor and members of the Judiciary Committee.

My name is Jane Emons and it is both an honor and a privilege to be seated here before you. I want to take this time to thank Governor Rell for her nomination, to thank all of those who supported this nomination, and to thank each and every one of you on this Committee for providing me the opportunity to appear before you.

I have been a lifetime resident of the State of Connecticut, except for school years (where I earned my BA from Kirkland (Hamilton) College in 1971, my MA in Anthropology from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1972 and my JD degree cum laude from Suffolk University in 1977, having served on its Law Review.

Upon graduation from Law School, I served as a Law Clerk to the Superior Court Judges in New Haven County. With a small office on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the New Haven Courthouse, I had day-to-day contact with the New Haven County Superior Court Judges, one of whom, Ellen Bree Burns, went on to become a Federal District Judge and many of whom, Judges Grillo, Healey and Berdon became Supreme Court Justices. It was at that time that I knew that I wanted to ultimately serve with the Judiciary.

I became a Prosecutor following the law clerkship and spent a combined 10 years at both the GA and JD levels in the New Haven States' Attorney's Office. Parenthetically, I had the pleasure of working for a time with Rep. Lawlor. I handled all types of criminal and motor vehicle offenses and tried approximately 25 jury cases to conclusion. During my tenure as Prosecutor, I met my husband, Jeffrey who is here with me today. We have been married for almost 27 years, and have 3 children ages 25, 24 and 20, all of whom either work or attend school in the Washington, DC area.

In 1988, due to family needs, including young children, an elderly mother and a family business that both needed my help and provided a challenging opportunity, I chose to leave the State's Attorney's Office and join our family's automobile business. I played an administrative role that required supervision of nearly 50 employees in areas that included human resources, unemployment compensation and workers compensation. The experience was most helpful as it enabled me to view and understand the perspectives of both giving legal services and needing outside legal services for issues that were beyond my expertise.

As my heart never really left State Service, I returned to the Attorney General's office in June of 1996 where I have continued to the present. It has been invaluable to learn more about the civil law and I have practiced primarily employment discrimination law in state and federal forums at both trial and appellate levels. I have tried a number of jury trials to verdict and have also tried a number of bench trials during the past fourteen years.

Outside of work, I have served on local business, private and community boards, primarily as they relate to schooling and/or education.

In conclusion, I remain a dedicated public servant and can imagine no greater honor than to devote the rest of my career to the demands of judicial office. If approved by the Committee as a Superior Court Judge, I can assure you that I will work daily to make you and the citizens of the State, proud of my appointment.