

## **TESTIMONY OF PATRICIA LOW**

### **NOMINEE**

#### **CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF LABOR RELATIONS**

Good morning Senator Looney, Representative Janowski and members of the committee. My name is Patricia Low and I am happy to be here today to speak about my nomination to the Connecticut State Board of Labor Relations (Board).

It has been my privilege to serve on the Board in various capacities since 1977. In that year I was appointed to the Board to serve as a regular member with then Chairman Fleming James. I have continued to serve as a member or alternate member since that time, and I am honored to currently serve as Chair. In my years with the Board I have heard and participated in thousands of cases involving the Municipal, State and Education sectors. I bring to this appointment not only my experience and knowledge of the history and work of the Board for the last 37 years but also my long public service record in the Town of Glastonbury where I have lived and raised my family for 48 years. I have always been and continue to be very involved in municipal activities having served both as an appointed elected official on

numerous boards and commissions. My knowledge of town government has been very helpful to my work on the Board whose case load is dominated by issues arising under the Municipal Employee Relations Act.

The Labor Board has grown and changed in many ways over time. The Board schedules hearings nearly every day and issues written decisions on all cases that do not settle. The complexity of the Board's cases has increased dramatically. There is increasing legalism in the process and the changing workplace produces new and challenging issues every day for labor-management relationships. Rapidly changing technology vitally impacts the way in which we all do our work and influences the day to day relationships in the workplace. The Board must stay responsive to the changing needs of the parties before us while continuing to strive to maintain efficiency, equality and timeliness in the process. The Board must always be aware of the impact of delay on the parties before us and to ensure that cases are kept on track and moved to timely conclusions. Each member of this Board must be committed to serving the public by investing the time and energy needed to provide prompt and reasoned decisions to the public we serve. This commitment to quality and timeliness are crucial to the work of the Board.

As indicated by my service, I believe in the work of the Agency. The Board plays a vital role in maintaining labor peace for the state. If reappointed I will continue my commitment of time in order to provide a fair labor process. As a member, I am dedicated to improving the efficiency and the services provided to labor and management in the State of Connecticut

Thank you for your time, I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patricia V. Low".

Patricia V. Low