

at any time, on either side of the aisle, they got whatever time they wanted or time to introduce or anything else, and several times rearrange a schedule so that the home State Senators could introduce President Bush's nominees.

Senator SESSIONS. I think that is a lot of truth, and sometimes we just had to resort to written questions because they work too.

Chairman HATCH. There were many times we did written questions because of the time constraints. We have tried to be fair here and I think we have been. And you folks have been more than stalwart in being with us this long, and you are going to have to be here a little longer. I apologize to you, but this is an important hearing, and my colleagues have felt like all three of your are, quote, "controversial," unquote. I do not agree with that assessment, but some feel that way and they have a right to feel that way if they want to. So what we are going to do is we will recess for just 5 minutes. I want everybody back in 5 minutes, and we will start with the three District Court nominees, and we want you here promptly at 8.

Senator LEAHY. The Court of Appeals nominees can take off if they want, right?

Chairman HATCH. Yes, until 8 o'clock, but I would like to see the three of you just for a minute in this 5-minute period. Thank you.

[Recess from 6:48 p.m. to 6:57 p.m.]

Chairman HATCH. We are going to reconvene. If I could have you stand and hold up your right hands. Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Judge ADAMS. I do.

Mr. JUNELL. I do.

Judge OTERO. I do.

Chairman HATCH. Thank you. I would like to welcome to the Committee our three District nominees, Judge John Adams, who has been nominated for the Northern District of Ohio; Robert Junell, who has been nominated for the Western District of Texas; and Judge James Otero, who has been nominated for the Central District of California.

It has been a long day so far, and you have been very, very patient, and I am very appreciative of you. So in the interest of time, I am going to enter my statement in the record and as soon as Senator Leahy gets here, we will have him give any statement he cares to give. Until then maybe I can start with questions.

Well, first of all, let me show a little more courtesy than that. We will go with Judge Adams and then Judge Otero, and then Mr. Junell. If you would care to make a statement and introduce anybody who is here from your family. They are probably all gone by now, and perhaps before we begin, I would like to turn to Senator DeWine to introduce Judge Adams.

PRESETATION OF JOHN ADAMS, NOMINEE TO BE DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO BY HON. MIKE DEWINE, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF OHIO

Senator DEWINE. Thank you very much. I deferred this morning, Mr. Chairman, introducing Judge Adams, and it is my pleasure to

introduce really another fine Ohio nominee appearing before the Committee today, Judge John Adams.

Judge Adams, we welcome you to the committee, and we thank all of our nominees for their patience. I know it has been a very, very long day.

And Judge Adams from Akron has been nominated to be a U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio. He currently serves as a Judge on the Court of Common Pleas in Summit County. I am pleased to welcome Judge Adams, his former law partner, Philip Kaufman, to the Committee as well. Judge Adams is a 1978 graduate of Bowling Green State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education. In 1983 he received his law degree from the University of Akron School of Law. While a student at Akron, Judge Adams clerked for Judge Spicer with the Summit County Court of Common Pleas. Following this position Judge Adams spent 5 years in private practice, and during this time also served as Assistant Summit County Prosecutor. In 1989 Judge Adams returned to private practice as an associate and then a partner at the firm of Kaufman and Kaufman in Akron.

Since 1999 Judge Adams has served as a judge on the Court of Common Pleas for Summit County. In this position Judge Adams has demonstrated that he is an intelligent, hard-working and dedicated jurist. He is well respected, both inside the courtroom and out, and exhibits an excellent judicial temperament. He has shown that he has what it takes to be an excellent District Court Judge.

In endorsing his reelection effort just this last November, the Akron Beacon Journal stated that Judge Adams, and I quote, "has the potential to be a distinguished Federal Judge, building on the record of fairness and thoughtfulness that has marked his 3 years on the county bench." I agree completely, Mr. Chairman, with that sentiment.

While Judge Adams' professional accomplishments are impressive by any measure, I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight his involvement in the Akron community. Judge Adams has been a lifelong member of the NAACP. He has also been active in the Summit County Mental Health Association and the Summit County Civil Justice Commission.

In summary, Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues on the Committee to join me in support of this fine nominee as Senator from the State of Ohio. Thank you, Chairman.

Chairman HATCH. Well, thank you, Senator DeWine.

And that is high praise, Judge Adams.

We will turn to Senator Cornyn for his comments about Mr. Junell.

PRESENTATION OF ROBERT JUNELL, NOMINEE TO BE DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS BY HON. JOHN CORNYN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Senator CORNYN. Mr. Chairman, I just want to add my brief comments to those made by Senator Hutchison this morning in introducing Mr. Rob Junell, nominee for the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas. Senator Hutchison talked