

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

primarily about Mr. Junell's legislative accomplishments and his personal background.

But just for the committee's information I first met Mr. Junell about 20 years ago when I was a young lawyer and he and I happened to be on the opposite side of a lawsuit. You learn a lot about the character and the competence of your adversary in those circumstances, and I wanted the Committee to know and the record to reflect the high regard in which I personally hold Mr. Junell as a lawyer, as a person, and a person who has devoted many years of his life to public service already, and who I know will do an outstanding job on the Federal Bench.

And also his wife, Beverly, who is here with him today. It seems like, Mr. Junell, you were introduced a long time ago, but just for a refresher and to add my comments and congratulations to you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for that opportunity.

Chairman HATCH. Thank you, Senator.

We will begin with Judge Adams, and then Judge Otero, and then Mr. Junell. And if you have any statements to make, we would be happy to take them, and if you would, introduce anyone who is accompanying you here.

**STATEMENT OF JOHN ADAMS, NOMINEE TO BE DISTRICT
JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO**

Judge ADAMS. Senator, first of all, I would like to thank the Committee for allowing us this hearing this late day. I know it has been a long day for you. We greatly appreciate it. I greatly appreciate the courtesy in being permitted to be heard today.

I want to acknowledge my former law partner who is here today, Mr. Philip Kaufman, as Senator DeWine has acknowledged him.

I additionally would like to acknowledge my father who could not be here today due to his age, somewhat age and somewhat unwillingness to travel here today, and acknowledge the memory of my mother who passed away some time ago and could not be here. I am sure she would be quite proud. And once again, thank you, Senator, for your courtesy.

Chairman HATCH. Well, thank you, Judge. Appreciate it. Judge Otero?

**STATEMENT OF S. JAMES OTERO, NOMINEE TO BE DISTRICT
JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

Judge OTERO. Thank you, Senator. I just want to thank the Committee for having me here. I am very honored. I would like to thank Senator Leahy and Senator Feinstein for the gracious statements made earlier today, and also to Senator Boxer for her written statement provided to the committee.

I would like to thank my family who is back there for being here, and also my parents who could not be here today because of health concerns.

Chairman HATCH. Introduce your family to us.

Judge OTERO. My wife Jill is here.

Chairman HATCH. Jill.

Judge OTERO. And my daughter Lauren.

Chairman HATCH. Lauren.

Judge OTERO. And my son, Evan.