

respect for the range of activities that lawyers are engaged in. I have seen lawyers come together to provide legal services to the families of Fort Bragg in the absence of husbands and wives in the military. I have seen lawyers come together to raise money and provide support for the victims of natural disasters.

It has given me a keener perspective of the role that lawyers play, not just within their profession, but also in their community, and it has renewed my pride in being a lawyer and in attempting to serve the public good in that capacity.

Senator EDWARDS. Judge, you served North Carolina well, and we are very proud of you, as a person, as a lawyer, and as a judge. I know myself, having spent a lot of time talking to folks in North Carolina, including lawyers and judges who know you very well, that you are held in extremely high regard by everyone across the board, regardless of political party affiliation, and we will do everything in our power to see that you are confirmed.

Judge DUNCAN. Thank you very much.

Senator GRAHAM. Thank you, Judge. I just echo what Senator Edwards said. Both the Senators from North Carolina give you very high marks in your resume as deserving of such marks.

I just have one question. What do you think about the University of Michigan cases that were just rendered by the Supreme Court?

Judge DUNCAN. I have had an opportunity to skim them. I have not read them in depth. I believe that the two opinions provide additional guidance for the Courts of Appeals to apply to the fact patterns that come before them. I think they have set out a framework that will circumscribe our consideration at the Court of Appeals level, if I am fortunate enough to be confirmed.

Senator GRAHAM. Thank you very much.

Do you have anything else, Senator Edwards?

Senator EDWARDS. No.

Senator GRAHAM. Thank you very much for your testimony before the Committee, and a very impressive person you are.

By agreement, we will have questions open to all of the nominees for a week, that any member of the Committee can submit questions that they would like for the next week.

Thank you very much, Judge Duncan. Thank you for coming.

Judge DUNCAN. Thank you.

Senator GRAHAM. Our next panel would be Mr. Brack, Mr. Der-Yeghiayan, Louise Flanagan, Mr. Suko and Mr. Yeakel, please.

If you would raise your right hand, please. Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give before this Committee is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

All: I do.

Senator GRAHAM. Thank you. You may be seated. And we will just start, if you have an opening statement, now would be the time to present it, and we will start with Judge Brack and work to the right.

**STATEMENT OF ROBERT C. BRACK, NOMINEE TO BE U.S.
JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

Judge BRACK. Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to appear this afternoon. I know we are on a short schedule.

I wanted to thank certainly the President for the nomination the support of my Senators, who are great servants of the State of New Mexico, and have served the Nation and our State well.

And I have my three daughters here today as well. Senator Domenici introduced my wife earlier, but I appreciate my family supporting me in this effort, and wanted to recognize them as well.²

[The biographical information of Judge Brack follows:]