

Responses of Evan J. Wallach
Nominee to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit
to the Written Questions of Senator Amy Klobuchar

- 1. If you had to describe it, how would you characterize your judicial philosophy? How do you see the role of the judge in our constitutional system?**

Response: I would characterize my judicial philosophy as devotion to rule of law. I see the role of the judge in our constitutional system as one of a principled, neutral, interpreter of law as articulated by the Constitution and the Congress.

- 2. What assurances can you give that litigants coming into your courtroom will be treated fairly regardless of their political beliefs or whether they are rich or poor, defendant or plaintiff?**

Response: The assurance I can give is that I take the oath of office very seriously, and have devoted myself to fair treatment of all litigants appearing before me over my sixteen years on the bench.

- 3. In your opinion, how strongly should judges bind themselves to the doctrine of stare decisis? How does the commitment to stare decisis vary depending on the court?**

Response: The stare decisis doctrine is of core importance to rule of law, and I believe all judges should bind themselves to it subject only to principled reconsideration. The only variance by court is that binding law may change based upon a ruling by a superior court, or that the law itself may change, necessitating the principled reconsideration I mentioned above.