

George Jarrod Hazel  
120 East Baltimore Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
January 6, 2013

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have reviewed the Senate Questionnaire that I previously filed in connection with my nomination on September 25, 2013, to be a United States District Judge in the District of Maryland. I certify that the information contained in that document is and remains, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

I am also forwarding an updated Net Worth Statement and Financial Disclosure Report as requested in the Questionnaire. I thank the Committee for its consideration of my nomination.

Very truly yours,



George Jarrod Hazel

cc: The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**UNITED STATES SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES**

**PUBLIC**

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).

George Jarrod Hazel

2. **Position**: State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the District of Maryland

3. **Address**: List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

**Office**:           Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City  
                          120 East Baltimore Street, Ninth Floor  
                          Baltimore, Maryland 21202

**Residence**:     North Potomac, Maryland

4. **Birthplace**: State year and place of birth.

1975; New York, New York

5. **Education**: List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

1996 – 1999, Georgetown University Law Center; J.D., 1999

1992 – 1996, Morehouse College; B.A. (*cum laude*), May 1996

6. **Employment Record**: List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2010 – present  
Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City  
120 East Baltimore Street, Ninth Floor

Baltimore, Maryland 21202  
Chief Deputy State's Attorney (2011 – present)  
Member of Transition Team for State's Attorney Elect (December 2010)

2008 – 2010  
United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland  
6406 Ivy Lane, Suite 800  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Project EXILE Coordinator – Southern Division

2005 – 2008  
United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia  
555 Fourth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Assistant United States Attorney

1999 – 2004, Summer 1998  
Weil, Gotshal and Manges, LLP  
1300 Eye Street, NW, Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20005  
Associate (1999 – 2004)  
Summer Associate (Summer 1998)

January – May 1998  
American Civil Liberties Union  
4301 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 434  
Washington, DC 20008  
Law Clerk

1997  
The Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia  
633 Indiana Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
Investigator and Law Clerk, Criminal Division (September 1997 – December 1997)  
Investigator, Mental Health Division (January – August 1997)

Summer 1996  
The Office of Congressman Floyd H. Flake (Retired)  
Washington, DC  
Intern

Other Affiliations (uncompensated):

September 2011 – present  
Federal Bar Association, Maryland Chapter

1220 North Fillmore Street, Suite 444  
Arlington, Virginia 22201  
Member, Board of Governors

1997 – present  
Metropolitan Baptist Church  
96 Harry S. Truman Drive  
Largo, Maryland 20774  
Board of Deacons (2005 – present)  
Member of Council of Twelve Advisory Group (2007 – present)  
Trustee (2007 – 2010)

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I have not served in the military. I timely registered for selective service.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Drug Enforcement Agency, Certificate of Appreciation for prosecution of *United States v. Butler* (2010)

United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, Special Achievement Award for consistently excellent performance in the Sex Offense / Domestic Violence section (2006)

Weil, Gotshal & Manges Pro Bono Award given for devoting fifty or more billable hours to pro-bono activities (2002)

Georgetown University Law Center, Equal Justice Foundation Fellowship for serving public interest through internship with Mental Health Division of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (1997)

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Federal Bar Association, Maryland Chapter (2011 – present)  
Board of Governors (2011 – present)  
Membership Committee (2013 – present)

J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association (2012 – present)

Montgomery County Bar Association (2013 – present)

Maryland State Bar Association (2012 – present)

Virginia State Bar Association (1999 – present)

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Maryland State Bar, 2011

District of Columbia Bar, 2000

Virginia State Bar, 1999 (inactive)

There have been no lapses in membership although my membership in the Virginia State Bar is inactive.

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

Court of Appeals of Maryland, 2011

Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, 2000

Supreme Court of Virginia, 1999

United States District Court for the District of Maryland, 2008

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, 2000

United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, 2000

United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, 2001

United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, 2001

There have been no lapses in membership.

11. **Memberships:**

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Metropolitan Baptist Church (1997 – present)  
 Board of Deacons (2005 – present)  
 Christian Discipleship Council (2004 – 2006)  
 President, MBC Toastmasters Ministry (2005 – 2007)  
 Chair of Legal Ministry (2006 – 2008)  
 Member of Council of Twelve Advisory Group (2007 – present)  
 Trustee (2007 – 2010)

- b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To the best of my knowledge, none of the organizations listed in 11a currently discriminates or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin, either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies.

## 12. **Published Writings and Public Statements:**

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

George J. Hazel, *A Light for Dark Times*, Forty Days of Power: Meditations and Reflections, March 1 – April 16, 2006. Copy Supplied

George J. Hazel, Letter to the Editor, *Diversity Includes Acceptance*, GEORGETOWN LAW WEEKLY, October 6 to October 10, 1997.  
 Copy supplied.

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

I have been a member of the Board of Deacons for the Metropolitan Baptist Church since 2005. Although I have not personally drafted or edited the annual reports during this time, I did review them in my capacity as a Deacon. I have

listed the annual reports of the Metropolitan Baptist Church that I could locate:

Annual Report, Metropolitan Baptist Church, 2010. Copy Supplied.

Annual Report, Metropolitan Baptist Church, 2009. Copy Supplied.

Annual Report, Metropolitan Baptist Church, 2008. Copy Supplied.

Annual Report, Metropolitan Baptist Church, 2007. Copy Supplied.

Annual Report, Metropolitan Baptist Church, 2005 – 2006. Copy Supplied.

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

Letter from Gerard J. Gaeng, President, Maryland Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, to Senator Ben Cardin (May 21, 2013). Copy supplied.

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

February 3, 2013: Speaker, “What to Do When It Doesn’t Work,” Latter Rain Christian Fellowship, Queens, New York. Recording supplied.

May 11, 2012: Moderator, Gang Symposium, Office of the Attorney General, Baltimore, Maryland. The symposium was on current issues in the area of gang prosecutions. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Office of the Attorney General is 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

November 16, 2011: Panelist, “Careers in the Law,” Alliance of Black Women Attorneys, Baltimore, Maryland. The panel was on career paths in the field of law enforcement. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Alliance of Black Women Attorneys is P.O. Box 23674, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

October 19, 2011: Panelist, "When Prosecutions Go Wrong," American Constitution Society, Baltimore, Maryland. The panel was on wrongly convicted defendants. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the American Constitution Society is 1333 H Street, NW, 11th Floor, Washington, DC 20005.

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

Ian Duncan, *Baltimore Crime-Fighter Resigns Over Fast and Furious Case*, BALTIMORE SUN, September 23, 2012. Copy supplied.

Scott Calvert, *Bernstein Names Two Attorneys to Leadership Team*, BALTIMORE SUN, December 6, 2010. Copy supplied.

Liz Skalski, *Metropolitan Baptist Parishioners Await Opening of New Site*, GAZETTE.NET, May 21, 2009. Copy Supplied.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

I have never been a judge.

- a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment? \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Of these, approximately what percent were:

jury trials:	_____%
bench trials:	_____% [total 100%]
civil proceedings:	_____%
criminal proceedings:	_____% [total 100%]
- b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.
- c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (3) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

- d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.
  - e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.
  - f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.
  - g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.
  - h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.
  - i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.
14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

I have never been a judge.

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

**15. Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

I have not held public office. I have had no unsuccessful candidacies for public office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

Volunteer, George Seymore campaign for Maryland State Senate (2006). I attended one or two campaign meetings and distributed flyers for his campaign.

Volunteer, Daniel Farrington campaign for Maryland State Delegate (2006). I distributed flyers for the campaign.

**16. Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

- a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:
- i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;
- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;
- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

1999 – 2004  
Weil, Gotshal and Manges, LLP  
1300 Eye Street, NW, Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20005  
Litigation Associate

2005 – 2008

United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia  
555 Fourth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Assistant United States Attorney

2008 – 2010

United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland  
6406 Ivy Lane, Suite 800  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770  
Assistant United States Attorney; Project EXILE Coordinator – Southern  
Division

2010 – present

Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City  
120 East Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202  
Chief Deputy State's Attorney (2011 – present)  
Member of Transition Team for State's Attorney Elect (December 2010)

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

During my time at Weil, Gotshal and Manges, LLC ("Weil"), my practice focused almost exclusively on general commercial litigation. The type of cases handled included, but were not limited to, class action antitrust claims, mass tort product liability claims, contract disputes and bankruptcy litigation. Since 2004, I have been a criminal prosecutor handling a variety of criminal cases. From 2005 until 2008, I was an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia and prosecuted criminal violations in the General Felony Section, Sex Offense / Domestic Violence Section, and the Appellate Section in the Superior Court for the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. From 2008 until 2010, I was an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Maryland and prosecuted violations of federal criminal law in the Violent Crime Unit of the United States District Court for the District

of Maryland. From 2011 through the present, I have been the Chief Deputy State's Attorney for Baltimore City, where I manage an office of approximately two hundred prosecutors responsible for prosecuting violations of Maryland law in Baltimore City, as well as continuing to maintain my own caseload.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

During my time at Weil, my typical clients were large corporations and my practice was general commercial litigation. Clients represented during my career at Weil included Cooper Tires, Daimler Chrysler Corporation, and Armstrong World Industries. From 2005 to 2008, I was a prosecutor on behalf of the United States of America in the District of Columbia. During this time, I served in the General Felony section, where I handled felony gun and narcotics cases; the Sex Offense / Domestic Violence Section, where I handled cases involving domestic violence and child abuse; and the Appellate Section. From 2008 to 2010, I was a prosecutor on behalf of the United States of America in the District of Maryland. During this time, I served in the Violent Crime Unit in the Northern Division of the Office and became coordinator of Project EXILE in the Southern Division of the Office where I continued to focus on violent crime. Since 2011, I have been a prosecutor for the State of Maryland.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

100% of my practice has been in litigation. From 1999 to 2004, while working at Weil, I practiced primarily civil litigation in federal court, and my appearances were occasional. From 2005 to 2008, while working at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, I appeared in criminal matters in the Superior Court for the District of Columbia or the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, approximately four out of five days of the week. From 2008 to 2010, while working at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland, I continued to appear in criminal matters in federal court frequently. From 2011 to the present, while working at the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, I have appeared occasionally in state court in criminal matters.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
  - 1. federal courts: 50%
  - 2. state courts of record: 50%
  - 3. other courts: 0%
  - 4. administrative agencies: 0%

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
  - 1. civil proceedings: 25%
  - 2. criminal proceedings: 75%
- d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

In my career, I have tried approximately fifty cases to verdict. In four of those cases I was associate counsel. In the remainder, I was sole or chief counsel.

- i. What percentage of these trials were:
  - 1. jury: 40%
  - 2. non-jury: 60%
- e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have never practiced before the Supreme Court.

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

(1) *In re Armstrong World Industries (Armstrong World Industries v. Center for Claims Resolution)*, 00-4471 (D. N.J.), Judge Alfred Wolin

Armstrong World Industries (“AWI”), along with a number of similarly situated companies, formed the Center for Claims Resolutions (“CCR”) to serve as a clearinghouse for asbestos related litigation. Pursuant to sections 547 and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code, AWI commenced an adversary proceeding against the CCR seeking to avoid and recover payments made in the 90-day period preceding its Chapter 11 filing

(the “transfer litigation”). AWI additionally sought an injunction to prevent the CCR from drawing on a surety bond (the “bond litigation”).

On the transfer litigation, I was primarily responsible for discovery related matters including the taking and defending of most significant depositions. I was also the primary drafter of AWI’s pre-trial memorandum and devised much of our trial strategy. The case was settled prior to trial. I also provided assistance on the bond litigation, including, but not limited to, assisting with discovery related matters and drafting portions of the summary judgment brief, which was granted. These cases began in 2000 and were resolved in 2004.

Lead Counsel:

David A. Hickerson  
Foley & Lardner  
3000 K Street, NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20007  
(202) 672-5467

Opposing Counsel:

Anthony Diana  
Mayer Brown LLP  
1675 Broadway  
New York, NY 10019  
(212) 506-2542

(2) *State of Maryland v. Carrington*, Case No. 811227004 (Cir. Ct. Balt. 2013), Judge Alfred Nance

Vaughn and Pratt were at a stoplight in a white Acura on North Avenue in Baltimore City, when a gray Honda Accord pulled up beside them. A man exited the vehicle and shot and killed Pratt. Initially, Vaughn refused to identify the shooter but at trial he identified Carrington as the shooter. Testimony at trial also established that a firearm found during a routine traffic stop in the glove compartment of a Honda Accord driven by Carrington was the weapon used to kill Pratt. Carrington’s girlfriend testified that while the gray Honda Accord was Carrington’s car, he frequently lent the car to his friends. The jury acquitted Carrington of the homicide but found him guilty of possessing the firearm on the day of the traffic stop. I was second-chair on this trial. I handled the motion to suppress the firearm, which was denied. At trial, I was responsible for the direct examinations of the officers who recovered the gun and the ballistics expert who identified it as the murder weapon. I also gave the initial closing argument for the State.

Co-counsel:

Amy Donze  
Office of the State’s Attorney for Baltimore City  
120 East Baltimore Street

Baltimore, MD 21201  
(443) 984-6025

Opposing Counsel:  
Gil Amaral  
200 East Lexington Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
(410) 727-9550

(3) *United States of America v. Braxton*, 08-WDQ-cr-444, (D. Md. 2009), *aff'd*, 456 Fed. Appx. 242 (4th Cir. 2011), Judge William D. Quarles

On May 17, 2006, a Baltimore police officer making a routine traffic stop encountered Braxton and, after Braxton attempted to wrestle the officer, subdued him and recovered a loaded firearm. The district court denied Braxton's motion to suppress the gun and he was convicted after a two-day trial during which other passengers in the vehicle testified in his defense. The government established that the defendant was an Armed Career Criminal and he was sentenced to 235 months incarceration. As lead counsel, I handled all but one witness in the government's case, cross-examined a defense witness, presented the government's opening statement and rebuttal closing argument, and drafted the government's brief on appeal. The conviction and sentence were affirmed on appeal.

Co-counsel:  
James Wallner  
United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland  
36 South Charles Street, Fourth Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
(410) 209-4800

Opposing Counsel:  
Gary Proctor  
Eight East Mulberry Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
(410) 444-1500

(4) *United States v. Butler*, et al., 08-BEL-cr-0381 (D. Md. 2010), *aff'd*, 429 Fed. Appx. 239 (4th Cir. 2011), Judge Benson Legg (retired)

Butler was the leader of a notoriously violent drug organization in Baltimore City. At the conclusion of a wiretap investigation, a federal grand jury indicted Butler along with nine additional members of his organization. The trial court denied multiple pre-trial motions, including motions to suppress the wiretap and physical evidence recovered during the execution of a number of search warrants. Trial in the matter lasted approximately three weeks. Five cooperating witnesses testified for the government. Expert testimony included a DNA expert, a firearms expert, multiple drug experts and a fingerprint expert. Numerous calls intercepted pursuant to the wiretap were played for the jury. In my role

as lead counsel, I was the principal drafter of the opposition brief to the motions to suppress and argued them in court, established the order of proof, conducted the direct examination of the majority of the witnesses and all of the expert witnesses, with the exception of the fingerprint expert, and delivered the opening statement and rebuttal closing argument for the government. The jury found co-defendant Wright guilty of all counts and found Butler guilty of all but one count. The court agreed with the government's sentencing recommendation and sentenced Butler to life in federal prison upon finding that Butler had committed a murder in furtherance of his drug operation. Wright received a 35-year sentence. Most other defendants, including ones who cooperated, received sentences in excess of ten years. The conviction and sentence were affirmed in an appeal handled by another attorney.

Co-Counsel:

Christine Celeste

Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City

120 East Baltimore Street

Baltimore, MD 21202

(443) 984-6136

Counsel for Defendant Butler:

Thomas Saunders

3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 201

Baltimore, MD 21211

(410) 662-5586

Counsel for Defendant Wright

Joseph Balter

Malik Edwards

Office of the Federal Public Defender

District of Maryland

Northern Division

100 South Charles Street

Tower II, Ninth Floor

Baltimore, MD 21201

(410) 962-3962

(5) *United States v. Cooper*, 08-BEL-cr-00239 (D. Md. 2009), Judge Benson Legg (retired)

On November 13, 2007, members of the Baltimore Police Department were provided with information from a confidential informant that a Red Denali sports utility vehicle would be involved in a narcotics transaction. This tip led to a traffic stop, a subsequent search warrant of defendant's home and a recovery of a firearm, over one hundred grams of crack cocaine and \$1,800. The defense filed motions requesting an Order that the government disclose the identity of the confidential informant, moving to suppress the original stop and the fruits thereof and moving to suppress the defendant's statements

regarding the firearm in his house. As sole counsel for the United States, I briefed the response and presented all evidence and argument at the motions hearing. All motions by the defendant were denied. The defendant then pled guilty and pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(C) both parties agreed to a sentence of 180 months incarceration.

Opposing Counsel:  
Alan Bussard  
405 Allegheny Avenue  
Towson, MD 21204  
(410) 821-5589

(6) *United States v. Graham*, 09-WDQ-cr-5067 (D. Md. 2009), *aff'd*, 7 F.3d 445 (4th Cir. 2013), Judge William D. Quarles

From March 2006 through August 2008, Graham and several co-conspirators distributed 150 kilograms of cocaine to customers in the Baltimore area. Testimony at trial established that Graham and his co-defendants arranged multiple kilograms of cocaine to be shipped from Arizona to Baltimore. All defendants who were intercepted on the wiretap entered plea agreements before trial. Evidence at the trial of Graham consisted almost solely of cooperator testimony. As lead counsel, I drafted the opposition to the motion to suppress the wiretap, conducted the direct examinations of roughly half of the witnesses including two cooperating witnesses and gave the opening statement and rebuttal closing argument for the government. Defendant was convicted at trial and, based on his criminal history, sentenced to life in prison. The conviction and sentence were affirmed on an appeal handled by another attorney.

Co-counsel:  
Bryan Giblin  
1574 Gulf Road #1509  
Point Roberts, WA 98281  
(410) 215-7037

Opposing Counsel:  
Richard Bittner  
Seven Central Avenue  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061  
(410) 590-2552

(7) *United States v. Hart*, 2008 CF3 00716 (D.C. Super. Ct. 2008), Judge Harold Cushenberry

Hart was accused of pointing a loaded firearm at the head of the victim, his girlfriend. The victim, who immediately reconciled with the defendant, consistently denied being assaulted. Despite the lack of cooperation of the victim, through the usage of recorded jail calls between the defendant and the victim and the testimony of the two officers who

observed a portion of the assault, the jury convicted the defendant of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon and related charges. As sole government counsel on this case, I handled all witnesses and argument for the government. The defendant was sentenced to approximately ten years incarceration.

Opposing Counsel:

Vida Johnson  
Georgetown University Law Center  
Criminal Justice Clinic  
600 New Jersey Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 662-9575

(8) *United States v. Redd*, 07-WDQ-cr-470, (D. Md. 2008), *aff'd*, 372 Fed. Appx. 413 (4th Cir. 2010), Judge William D. Quarles

Officers of the Baltimore Police Department observed Redd toss a gun under a vehicle. He was apprehended by the officer and the gun was recovered. The defendant was convicted after a two-day jury trial. The government argued at sentencing that the defendant was an Armed Career Criminal, and therefore susceptible to the mandatory 15-year sentence, based on prior convictions for possession with intent to distribute cocaine and multiple prior convictions for first-degree assault. The district court agreed and sentenced the defendant to 240 months incarceration. Redd appealed his sentence, arguing that the district court erred when it relied on the pre-sentence report to establish the predicate offenses supporting the finding of Redd's Armed Career Criminal status. The United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit rejected Redd's argument in an unpublished opinion holding that the pre-sentence report was sufficient to establish the convictions at issue. I handled all evidence and argument at trial. On appeal, I drafted the government brief.

Co-Counsel:

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Opposing Counsel:

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(9) *United States v. Rittner*, 2005 DVM 935 (D.C. Super. Ct. 2005), Judge Craig Iscoe

Rittner was accused of multiple misdemeanor counts including destruction of property, stalking and a violation of a stay-away order from his ex-wife. The charges stemmed from a pattern of behavior during which Rittner followed his ex-wife, spread rumors about her behavior in the community, left threatening and harassing voicemail messages on her phone, and damaged her door in an attempt to gain entry into her house. Rittner represented himself during trial but allowed the Georgetown Criminal Justice Clinic to appear as his stand-by counsel. Rittner's defense was necessity. Rittner, who was a German national, claimed that he was the victim of a massive conspiracy by the German intelligence agency and that his ex-wife was a part of the conspiracy. At trial, witnesses for the government included his wife and their daughter. Rittner testified in his defense. The court found him guilty of all counts and he was sentenced to 180 days incarceration on each of four counts.

Opposing Counsel:  
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(10) *United States v. Shanton*, 08-CCB- cr-00142 (D. Md. 2009), *aff'd*, 513 Fed. Appx. 265 (4th Cir. 2013), Judge Catherine Blake

On October 22, 2007, two masked men robbed an M&T Bank in Hagerstown, Maryland and on November 24, 2007 two men attempted a robbery at the Susquehanna Bank in Hagerstown, Maryland. Evidence at trial included cooperator testimony from the individual who robbed the M&T Bank with Shanton and expert testimony regarding DNA and fingerprints. The government called FBI forensics examiner Luttmann as its expert in DNA forensic examination. Luttmann testified that she tested various pieces of evidence and determined that Shanton's DNA profile matched the DNA profile left on a piece of chewing gum found at the location where the robbers fled after the robbery. The defendant objected to the fact that the government would not be calling the serologist and the technician who worked on the case. The government argued successfully to the district court and the court of appeals that the "bench work" done by technicians prior to Luttmann's analysis of the data was not testimonial. As lead counsel in this case, I delivered the opening statement and rebuttal closing argument and performed the direct examination of multiple witnesses including the DNA expert and the cooperating witness. Shanton was convicted at trial and sentenced to 50 years in prison.

Co-counsel:  
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18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

During my time as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Maryland, I led numerous investigations that incorporated wiretaps pursuant to the Federal Wiretap Act ("Title III") or its state equivalent. In 2008 and 2009, I worked with another AUSA and two state prosecutors on a wiretap investigation that resulted in an indictment under the federal racketeering statute and a total of 42 indictments against members of the Bloods gang in Baltimore City. Additionally, I was the lead prosecutor on three Title III investigations, not including those discussed above: (1) an investigation that led to the indictment of ten members of a drug organization that was transporting multiple kilograms of cocaine into Maryland from Houston, Texas; (2) an investigation that led to the indictment of a known repeat violent offender in the Prince George's County area, and (3) an investigation that led to the indictment of more than a dozen members of a local gang suspected of a number of homicides in the Prince George's County area. As the lead prosecutor on these Title III investigations, I drafted and reviewed requests for authorization of wire intercepts, drafted and reviewed search warrant affidavits, participated in strategy meetings with federal agents and determined when there was sufficient evidence to indict each defendant. Each investigation ultimately resulted in convictions at trial after my departure from the United States Attorney's Office.

During my time as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Maryland, I served as the Southern Division Coordinator of Project EXILE. Project EXILE is a joint federal/state partnership that seeks to focus federal resources on gun-related violent crime in urban communities. In addition to building relationships with law-enforcement partners that led to the investigations discussed in the preceding paragraph, my role included screening local gun-related crimes for federal prosecution. This included

firearm cases, armed carjacking cases, and robberies prosecuted under the federal Hobbs Act statute.

19. **Teaching**: What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

None.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits**: List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

I have no such anticipated receipts.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service**: Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

None.

22. **Sources of Income**: List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

See attached Financial Disclosure Report.

23. **Statement of Net Worth**: Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest**:

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

If confirmed, I would recuse myself from any case through which I have gained knowledge as an Assistant United States Attorney or as Chief Deputy State's Attorney for Baltimore City. In these as in all cases, I would handle any matters involving actual or potential conflicts of interest in conformity with the Code of Conduct for United States Judges and any other relevant statutes, ethical canons, and rules.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If confirmed, I would handle any matter involving actual or potential conflicts of interest in conformity with the Code of Conduct for United States Judges and any other relevant statutes, ethical canons, and rules. Further, upon learning of any situation that a party or observer might perceive or identify as an actual or potential conflict of interest, I would alert the parties to the situation in question and solicit their views.

25. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

For the last 18 years, I have been a member of the Metropolitan Baptist Church of Washington, DC and Largo, Maryland. During that time I have served in a variety of capacities, many of which afforded me the opportunity to impact the disadvantaged. For a number of years, I served as a part of the church's street ministry. While a member of that ministry, I would meet at my church once a week to prepare meals, which we would then deliver to homeless persons in the community. For two years I was also president of the church's Legal Ministry. Through that role, I assisted members of the church, including many who could not afford lawyers, in obtaining legal representation when they were in need. In my current role as a Deacon, among other obligations, I bring communion to members of our church who are not able to attend service because of illness or infirmity. This is done on a monthly basis. Lastly, I taught the teen Sunday School class on a weekly basis for a number of years, and I currently teach the adult Sunday School class on a periodic basis.

During my time at Weil, I was an active participant in our pro-bono program. My activities included, but were not limited to, representing a Cameroon woman seeking asylum in the United States and an individual in a civil rights action against a local police department based on allegations of police brutality.

26. **Selection Process:**

- a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and

the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

On March 11, 2013, I submitted an application to Senator Barbara Mikulski's office. On March 26, 2013, I was interviewed by a panel of attorneys, convened by Senators Mikulski and Cardin, in Baltimore, Maryland. On May 6, 2013, I was interviewed by Senators Mikulski and Cardin in Washington, D.C. In June 2013, I was informed by Senator Mikulski that my name had been submitted to the White House to be considered for nomination to the United States District Court for the District of Maryland. Since June 2013, I have been in contact with officials from the Office of Legal Policy at the Department of Justice. On July 19, 2013, I interviewed with attorneys from the White House Counsel's Office and the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. On September 25, 2013, the President submitted my nomination to the Senate.

- b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.

AFFIDAVIT

I, George J. Hazel, do swear  
that the information provided in this statement is, to the best  
of my knowledge, true and accurate.

9/27/2013

(DATE)

George J. Hazel

(NAME)

Antonio Livia

(NOTARY)

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 9/1/2015