

**Prepared Statement for the Record**

**Senator Thom Tillis**

**For a Hearing Entitled “Nominations”**

**October 17, 2018**

Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Feinstein, thank you for the opportunity to provide a statement in support of the nomination of Allison Jones Rushing to be a United States Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Allison is an outstanding attorney and will make an exceptional Circuit Judge.

Allison is a native North Carolinian and completed her entire educational career in our great State. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree, *summa cum laude*, from Wake Forest University and then had the good sense to stay in North Carolina for law school where she received her J.D. from one of the nation’s top law schools, Duke University School of Law. While at Duke, Allison served as the Executive Editor of the Duke Law Journal. After Law School, she completed clerkships for then Circuit Judge Neil Gorsuch of the Tenth Circuit, Judge David Sentelle of the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and finally for Justice Thomas on the United States Supreme Court, all highly respected jurists.

Since completing her clerkships, Allison has practiced law at Williams & Connolly, one of the largest and most prestigious law firms in our country. At Williams & Connolly she has focused mostly on appellate matters in the Supreme Court and Federal Courts of Appeal, including commercial litigation, intellectual property, constitutional issues, and criminal law. She has tried four cases to verdict and has filed more than 47 briefs before the United States Supreme Court. Allison's work is so highly regarded that she was made a Partner in the firm in 2017, a rapid advance that has been noted by her colleagues in the Bar. That's why she's been rated as one of Washington, D.C.'s "Rising Stars" and twice been named to the National Law Journal's "Appellate Hot List."

As an objective observer can see, Allison is extremely qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge. Her experiences as a Judicial Law Clerk and in private practice have given her the depth and breadth of experience necessary to be a United States Circuit Court Judge.

However, Allison isn't just a top notch litigator and a leading legal mind. She's also a wonderful mother, friend, and community member. She goes out of her way to mentor young lawyers and help them achieve their dreams. She's

always willing to lend a helping hand to those who need her help, which is why she has been named to Capital Pro Bono's Honor Roll for five consecutive years.

Again, as any objective observer can see, Allison possesses all the professional skills and personal qualities the United States Senate should want in any judicial nominee. I'm proud to support her, I'm confident that this Committee will advance her nomination and the full Senate will confirm her. We owe the people of the Fourth Circuit the privilege of having such a qualified woman on the Court, and we owe it to Allison.