

Nomination of J. Nicholas Ranjan
United States District Court
For the Western District of Pennsylvania
Statement for the Record Submitted by Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA)
November 13, 2018

I am grateful to Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Ranking Member Diane Feinstein (D-CA) for holding a nomination hearing for my fellow Pennsylvanian J. Nicholas Ranjan, who has been nominated to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. I enthusiastically support Mr. Ranjan's nomination.

I am also grateful to my colleague Senator Bob Casey (D-PA) for his long-standing collaboration in working to fill federal district court vacancies in Pennsylvania. For the past eight years, Senator Casey and I have worked together, in bipartisan fashion, to fill vacancies on the federal bench in our home state. Together, we have vetted, recommended, and confirmed 18 federal district court judges. Only two states—California and New York—have had more district court judges confirmed to their federal benches during this time. I look forward to working with Senator Casey to fill the remaining district court vacancies in Pennsylvania.

Like myself, Mr. Ranjan is not a native of Pennsylvania. But he had the good sense to move there to live, work, and raise his three children with his wife Cheralyn. Mr. Ranjan himself is the son of Indian immigrants who came to the United States forty-years ago to pursue the American dream.

Mr. Ranjan has an impressive set of legal credentials that will make him an excellent judge. He is currently a litigation partner in the Pittsburgh office of K&L Gates LLP, a leading global law firm, where he has practiced since 2005. During his career, he has appeared in federal and state courts in Pennsylvania and beyond and represented clients in complex litigation matters, including commercial, energy, and appellate disputes. He has been recognized by Chambers USA as one of the top commercial litigators in Pennsylvania multiple times.

Prior to joining K&L Gates, Mr. Ranjan clerked for Judge Deborah Cook of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and served as a Simon Karas Fellow with the Ohio Attorney General's office, working with Ohio's Solicitor General on major appeals. Mr. Ranjan attended the University of Michigan Law School, where he graduated *cum laude*, and Grove City College, where he graduated *summa cum laude*.

Throughout his career, Mr. Ranjan has provided pro bono legal services to the disadvantaged, including prisoners and criminal defendants, and has been repeatedly recognized for this work. While at K&L Gates, he has served on the firm's global pro bono committee and directed the Pittsburgh office's pro bono program, which was recognized as "pro bono law firm of the year" in 2017 by the Allegheny County Bar Foundation. He has received K&L Gates's pro bono service recognition award on three separate occasions.

I enthusiastically support Mr. Ranjan's nomination. I am confident that he has the experience, intellect, integrity, and respect for the limited role of the judiciary in our constitutional system that are needed to excel as a federal judge.