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SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE
IN AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF: March 8, 2013
CEREMONY OF INVESTITURE 12:00 p.m.
Courtroom 8B

OF

PAUL R. WALLACE,

AS

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

PRESIDING:

HON. MYRON T. STEELE, CHIEF JUSTICE
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

SITTING:

HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN, JR., PRESIDENT JUDGE
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

HON. RICHARD R. COOCH, RESIDENT JUDGE
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

PRESENT:

HON. JACK A. MARKELL, GOVERNOR

HON. RANDY J. HOLLAND, JUSTICE
SUPREME COURT OF DELAWARE

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, III, ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF DELAWARE

MICHAEL L. CLARKE, ESQUIRE

LISA WALLACE
BENJAMIN WALLACE
ELYSSA WALLACE
REVEREND CALOGERO N. LAVERDE

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Members of the Delaware General Assembly, Judges of the State and Federal Courts, commissioners and others.

JOHN P. DONNELLY, RPR
CHIEF COURT REPORTER
SUPERIOR COURT REPORTERS
500 N. KING STREET WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801
(302) 255-0563

1 REVEREND LAVERDE: Holy wisdom of God, when
2 you brought Israel out of Egypt, you gave them the law
3 which made them a special nation. You care for your
4 people prudently. You selected men to help them live
5 and grow under that law.

6 The nation gave you 70 men, known for their
7 wisdom, prudence and mercy. You shared with these men
8 a portion of your holy wisdom so that they might
9 fulfill the sacred trust for their brethren. Our
10 forefathers followed the same plan, in spirit, with
11 this nation. Again, people have been selected to
12 administer the law for their countrymen, wisdom,
13 prudence and mercy. Come and give the spirit to those
14 before us who are called by their brethren to exercise
15 this sacred trust. Amen.

16 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: Thank you, Father.
17 Pleads stand for the pledge of allegiance which will be
18 led by Robin S. Lober a teacher at the Charter School
19 of Wilmington, who will be joined by past and present
20 members of the Charter School's mock trial team.

21 (The Pledge of Allegiance was administered.)

22 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: Thank you, Ms. Lober
23 and mock trial team members. Everyone may be seated.

1 Let me begin by introducing those who are seated with
2 me on the bench. To my immediate right is Chief
3 Justice Myron T. Steele of the Supreme Court of
4 Delaware; to his right is Resident Judge Richard R.
5 Cooch of the Superior Court. To my left is where
6 Superior Court Judge Paul R. Wallace will be seated
7 soon.

8 In the jury box are the Superior Court judges
9 and Commissioners with robes on for this special
10 session of the Court. The Court recognizes the family
11 members and many friends of our next Superior Court
12 judge who are present today, in particular, Paul's wife
13 Lisa, and children Ben and Ellie, and his sisters Gini
14 DiStefano and Kristine Kuhna. The Court also
15 recognizes Governor Markell, Attorney General Biden,
16 and members of the Delaware judiciary, the Bar, members
17 of the General Assembly who may be present. To all a
18 warm and special welcome to the Superior Court.

19 We are here today to commemorate the beginning
20 of Paul Wallace's career as a member of the Superior
21 Court, our State's general jurisdiction trial court.
22 The proceeding is one of investiture, where the
23 historical robing is a special ceremony, significance,

1 and public commitment under oath. The robe itself is a
2 symbol of impartiality, the judge's solemn duty to
3 administer equal justice on behalf of the people we
4 serve.

5 It is now my pleasure to ask Chief Justice
6 Steele to administer the oath of office. Judge
7 Wallace's wife Lisa will hold the Bible, then assist
8 with the robe.

9 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: Put your right hand on
10 the Bible and repeat after me:

11 "I,

12 PAUL R. WALLACE: "I, .

13 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "Do proudly swear."

14 PAUL R. WALLACE: "Paul R. Wallace do proudly
15 swear."

16 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "To carry out the
17 responsibilities."

18 PAUL R. WALLACE: "To carry out the
19 responsibilities."

20 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "Of Judge of the
21 Superior Court of the State of Delaware."

22 PAUL R. WALLACE: "Of Judge of the Superior
23 Court of the State of Delaware."

1 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "To the best of my
2 ability."

3 PAUL R. WALLACE: "To the best of my ability."

4 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "Freely acknowledging
5 the powers of this office."

6 PAUL R. WALLACE: "Freely acknowledging that
7 the powers of this office."

8 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "Flow from the people I
9 am privileged to represent."

10 PAUL R. WALLACE: "Flow from the people I am
11 privileged to represent."

12 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "I further swear."

13 PAUL R. WALLACE: "I further swear."

14 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "That I will always
15 place the public interests."

16 PAUL R. WALLACE: "That I will always place the
17 public interests."

18 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "Above any special or
19 personal interests."

20 PAUL R. WALLACE: "Above any special or
21 personal interests."

22 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "And to respect the
23 right of future generations."

1 PAUL R. WALLACE: "And to respect the right of
2 future generations."

3 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "To share the rich
4 historic."

5 PAUL R. WALLACE: "To share the rich historic."

6 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "And natural heritage of
7 Delaware."

8 PAUL R. WALLACE: "And natural heritage of
9 Delaware."

10 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "In doing so."

11 PAUL R. WALLACE: "In doing so."

12 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "I will always uphold
13 and defend."

14 PAUL R. WALLACE: "I will always uphold and
15 defend."

16 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "The Constitutions of my
17 Country and my State."

18 PAUL R. WALLACE: "The Constitutions of my
19 Country and my State."

20 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "So help me God."

21 PAUL R. WALLACE: "So help me God."

22 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: Congratulations, Paul.

23 (Applause.)

1 (Whereupon Paul R. Wallace puts the robe on
2 with the assistance of his wife and children and Judge
3 Paul R. Wallace assumes the Bench; whereupon all
4 Members of the Honorable Bench join in congratulations
5 to Judge Wallace.)

6 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: All right. Before
7 today's speakers are recognized I would like to warmly
8 welcome Paul to the Superior Court. He brings
9 outstanding credentials to the court from his years of
10 experience with the Department of Justice. His
11 qualifications and experience make him fully deserving
12 of the honor which the Governor and Senate have
13 conferred upon him. I predict that Paul Wallace will
14 be an excellent Superior Court judge, and a
15 distinguished member of the Delaware Judiciary.

16 I know that Paul and I will have no trouble at
17 all working very well together in our new relationship
18 as colleagues on the Superior Court. Each of us on the
19 Superior Court look forward to working with Paul as our
20 new colleague.

21 I would also like to thank Governor Markell
22 and the members of the General Assembly for creating
23 two new much needed judicial offices for the Superior

1 Court, one of which is now filled by Judge Wallace.

2 When the Superior Court was created, under the
3 Constitution of 1831, it had four judges. The
4 Constitution of 1897 expanded that to five judges. The
5 court did not expand again until 1961, when it expanded
6 to seven judges. By the end of that decade, it had
7 risen to nine judges. During the 1970s, it expanded to
8 11. During the decade of the 1980s, it expanded to 15.
9 In the 1990s, it expanded to 19. Now it expands to 21.

10 Judge Wallace is the 94th Delawarean to become
11 a Superior Court judge. I would like to invite his
12 Excellency The Honorable Jack A. Markell, the Governor
13 of the State of Delaware to make his remarks.

14 HON. JACK A. MARKELL: Good afternoon
15 everybody, to the Chief Justice, to members of the
16 judiciary, it is wonderful to be with all of you, to
17 our Attorney General, as well, and to all of you it is
18 great for me to be here to celebrate with you.

19 I want to start by thanking the members of the
20 Judicial Nominating Commission. I see Chief Justice
21 Veasey, I want to thank you, I'm not sure who else is
22 here from the Judicial Nominating Commission. They
23 have a very important responsibility, which is vetting

1 all of the applicants, and sending me names that I can
2 interview and choose from. I want to thank you for the
3 excellent work that you did. I want to thank the
4 Senate for the confirmation of Paul.

5 These are agonizing choices sometimes. I can
6 tell you it is an incredibly important responsibility
7 choosing the people who will serve as judges, being the
8 responsibility of Delaware are very, very difficult
9 choices. They are difficult because we have so many
10 excellent, excellent people to choose from, and I have
11 to say, I have such high confidence that Paul Wallace
12 will be a first-rate judge, and if that is not enough I
13 just leaned over to Beau, just before I was introduced,
14 I said "He is going to be a good judge, isn't he?"
15 Beau said, "He is going to be excellent." That did
16 make me feel better.

17 First of all, I have had some chance to work
18 with Paul, which I will mention in a second. I also,
19 beyond from the normal constituency of lawyers and
20 judges, about what a great judge Paul would be, I have
21 had the benefit of Andrew Donnelly, who is sitting
22 here, a former member of the mock trial team at Charter
23 that Paul coached for a long time, and I have heard

1 from other members of the mock trial team, as well.
2 Andrew works in my office, and he has been helping me
3 for a number of years now. He has been very clear, as
4 a teacher, as a teacher, Paul is as good as they get.
5 Just in terms of helping the members of the mock trial
6 team understand the law, and understanding how to
7 practice the law, Paul has been great. I think being a
8 good teacher is an awfully good quality to have in a
9 judge.

10 I had one other experience with Paul. There
11 are certain moments in life that you will never forget,
12 this was one of those for me.

13 Probably a year, year-and-a-half ago, just
14 about a year ago, some of you may remember that I
15 commuted a death penalty case. It was a very difficult
16 case and it was a very difficult decision. When I made
17 the decision to commute the sentence, I decided before
18 announcing my decision publically, I wanted to go visit
19 with the family of the victim, and which was a very
20 difficult thing to do. Paul had been on the --
21 representing the Department of Justice in that case.
22 He reached out to the family. The family said they
23 wanted him there during my conversation with them. So

1 it was very -- this was a moment I am sure Paul will
2 never forget, as well.

3 It was Paul, and me, and the brother and
4 mother and father of the victim of this particular
5 case. I will never forget the way Paul handled himself
6 in a really, really difficult situation and for that I
7 am really just extraordinarily grateful. There is no
8 question he has the educational and professional
9 qualifications to be a great judge.

10 But as I interview candidates for judges all
11 the time, I ask: What do you think it means to be a
12 great judge? They often talk about temperament. They
13 talk about how important it is that how you treat the
14 people that appear before you, whether they are
15 litigants, or whether they are attorneys and the like.
16 I can tell you, many of you who are lawyers and judges
17 can vouch for Paul's professional qualifications. I
18 also believe that he has the temperament to be a
19 first-class judge. I am thrilled to be here to have
20 the opportunity to tell you personally, congratulations
21 and how excited I am for you and your family.

22 (Applause.)

23 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: Thank you, Governor. I

1 would now like to recognize the Honorable Joseph R.
2 Biden, III, Attorney General for his remarks.

3 HON. JOSEPH BIDEN: Mr. Chief Justice,
4 President Judge Vaughn, distinguished members of the
5 Judiciary, it is an honor to be here this morning to
6 mark this great day for you, and for your family, and
7 really for the Department of Justice. The room is
8 filled with many, many of your current colleagues, I
9 guess at this point now former colleagues, many
10 veterans of the Department of Justice. I think there
11 is a spillover room, one of the courtrooms, literally.
12 There is so many people that wanted to be here to join
13 this day with you. Very many proud people in this
14 room.

15 Before I begin, though, folks, I want to thank
16 you, Governor, for the Committee that you have, members
17 that are here, Chief Justice Veasey and others, I am
18 sure that are here I don't see, for sending so many
19 fine people to this Court, and many of them from the
20 office that I am honored to be part of. In recognizing
21 the talents that people have, and have gained by
22 working with the Department of Justice, some of whom I
23 hired, many of whom Judge Brady hired, worked with, and

1 relied on and depended on, Judge Butler worked with.
2 Thank you for recognizing their talents. It's been a
3 very meaningful period for our office. Thank you very
4 much.

5 Paul, you have worked in our office, as
6 everyone here knows, for over 20 years -- 23.

7 Anyone that knows you, knows from the moment
8 you walked into the office, you were a leader, and I
9 think everyone who began to work with you, whether it
10 be Adam Balick, and others who started in and around
11 your era, Steve wood, who is nodding his head, he
12 usually does not nod his head when I talk. He is
13 nodding his head right now he. You just had the mark
14 of excellence and you have proven that from the moment
15 you walked through the doors of the AG's Office.

16 Serving in just about every capacity from
17 County Attorney to Chief of Appeals. I think it is a
18 great testament that the, basically, the entire Supreme
19 Court is here to watch this investiture.

20 It is a mark of the excellence of your
21 advocacy on behalf of the State, and the office before
22 the Court, before the Supreme Court. Obviously, your
23 expertise, your judgement, your professionalism. They

1 all speak for themselves.

2 I have relied on you in the most difficult
3 moments during my tenure as Attorney General. Just to
4 name two, both wearing your hat as Chief of Appeals on
5 the criminal side, that is on the Bradley case, and on
6 the Derrick Powell case, two cases that were happening
7 contemporaneously, that required an inordinate amount
8 of your time and energy, which is boundless, and you
9 stepped into both of those, and represented the State's
10 position, as you do always, with eloquence, and great
11 expertise before the Court.

12 I will never forget you for that. I know that
13 more important than me remembering what you did, I know
14 there is many, many families whose lives you have
15 touched just in those two cases alone. Thank you on
16 behalf of them.

17 The other point I would like to make is that I
18 am glad that your Bible is almost as big as my
19 family's. I got a lot of heat for carrying a big Bible
20 around, probably the thing, most attention I will ever
21 get in my life, last month was holding a big Bible, and
22 this is a big Bible. This is not the first time I
23 think you and your family are going to be holding a

1 Bible for the judge. You have the ability to do
2 anything, and this State's lucky to have you being
3 willing to choose public service.

4 You are a lawyer who, quite literally, could
5 be in any law firm, any courtroom, on any matter; civil
6 or criminal in this nation, and our office is lucky to
7 have had you for as long as we did. I know this Court
8 will be lucky to have you and you will make it an even
9 better place.

10 My final point is I want to thank your family
11 for sharing your dad, your husband with us. I know he
12 is literally on the speed dial of almost every deputy
13 in this room, mine included, on a whole host of
14 matters; weekends, nights, holidays. I know that comes
15 at great expense, not just for Paul, he chooses to do
16 it, but you allow him to do it. Lisa, thank you for
17 allowing him to do it. Ben, give me a few years before
18 you run for this job, and Ellie, you are as talented as
19 your brother. You have raised exceptional children. I
20 know how proud of them you are. Your dad talks about
21 you both a lot. Thank you for sharing him with us.
22 Congratulations, Judge.

23 (Applause.)

1 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: Thank you, Attorney
2 General Biden. I would like to recognize Michael L.
3 Clarke, Esquire, corporate counsel for the DuPont
4 Company.

5 MICHAEL CLARKE: Permit me a personal moment
6 with Judge Butler. I was not at your investiture. I
7 was traveling. I know you have been in Delaware a long
8 time, but I remember where you come from. If you find
9 yourself slipping up and asking one of these young
10 Deputy Attorneys General anything more from the
11 Commonwealth? I at least, as a fellow alumnus of
12 Philadelphia District Attorneys Office, will
13 understand.

14 Your old friends and colleagues wish you the
15 very best.

16 Mr. Chief Justice, Governor, Mr. Attorney
17 General, distinguished guests, friends and family. In
18 all the investitures that have occurred in this
19 courtroom, up the street in the old courthouse, no one
20 has ever said anything bad about the newly minted
21 judge. Judge Butler, we wouldn't do that in
22 Philadelphia.

23 HON. PAUL R. WALLACE: I would like to keep it

1 that way.

2 MICHAEL CLARKE: Can we agree, though, this is
3 a special, special day. Governor Markell, on
4 January 11th when you announced this nomination, there
5 was such an outpouring of good will, of excitement, of
6 exhilaration, of gratitude, maybe a little relief, that
7 it is extended into this courtroom today. This is a
8 wonderful, wonderful day. I am humbled to follow in
9 your footsteps, in Mr. Biden's footsteps and will
10 attempt to explain why for a few minutes. Judge
11 Wallace, I, at least, know how uncomfortable you are
12 listening to people talk about you. Your sense of
13 humility is deep seated, and sincere. You are just
14 going to have to sit and listen for a little while.

15 The Attorney General talks about public
16 service. For Paul Wallace, public service started as
17 an inspector with the USDA, following in his father's
18 footsteps. He served in the Marine Corps. He entered
19 boot camp at Parris Island the day after his soon to be
20 wife's prom. I had hoped to tell you all that he has
21 never had a job in the private sector, I would have
22 meant it as a compliment. Ellie told me earlier this
23 week that her parents got to know each other when they

1 were working together at a Dunkin' Donuts. The meaning
2 of that alludes me, but it is a charming picture, isn't
3 it?

4 Two of them as teenagers, 15 and 16-years-old?
5 With all that dough and powdered sugar.

6 HON. PAUL R. WALLACE: My children are here.

7 MICHAEL CLARKE: Paul Wallace didn't want to
8 become a judge because of the prestige, or power of the
9 post, and he certainly is not driven by money. This is
10 another aspect of public service to him. The Attorney
11 General talked about him as a prosecutor. He will not
12 be an ex-prosecutor on the bench. He will be more than
13 fair.

14 He is the best cross examiner I have ever
15 seen. He knows the rules of criminal procedure, and
16 evidence, and I have no doubt now six weeks into the
17 job, the rules of civil procedure better than anybody.
18 He coached mock trial, these students, for seven years
19 to six State championships, and one second place
20 finish. If Pete Jones is the George Washington of mock
21 trial in this state, surely Paul Wallace is the Abraham
22 Lincoln of mock trial in this state. These students,
23 and all the others from around the country who will be

1 on the phone this afternoon asking about this ceremony
2 are a testament to his legacy. They are on their way
3 to being lawyers and government officials, and
4 teachers, and doctors, and he should be very, very
5 proud.

6 Paul has one other quality that I think served
7 him well as a prosecutor. Alistair Cooke in writing
8 about Edward the 7th remarked, "The most damning
9 epitaph that you can compose about Edward, as a prince,
10 as a King, and as a man, is that he was at his best
11 only when the going was good." That is not Paul
12 Wallace. Judge Wallace does very, very well under
13 pressure. He knows how to take a punch. He is a
14 problem solver. If there is a young person on the mock
15 trial team facing a personal crisis, Paul was the
16 person to whom she turns for support, and for advice.

17 Paul is the person to whom a 50-some-year-old
18 friend turns to in those circumstances.

19 Paul's work with young people has not been
20 limited to mock trial. Present with us today is Judge
21 Wallace's friend, Councilman Chukwuocha, who has been
22 working for years with disadvantaged youth from the
23 Riverside section of Wilmington. When Paul was asked,

1 despite the press of his schedule, to find time to
2 participate, he listened for about ten seconds, then
3 with an almost dismissive wave of his hand, said I am
4 in, as if his own personal vocabulary did not encompass
5 a word to say anything but yes.

6 Paul has dedicated himself to the young people
7 and young lawyers of this State. Governor, this
8 nomination will enable him to continue that legacy for
9 decades and decades.

10 I mentioned Judge Wallace's sense of humility.
11 Albert Brooks, the comedian, in remarks about his many
12 appearances on the Tonight Show said of Johnny Carson,
13 he always tried to make you look good. Judge Wallace
14 always tries to shine the light on the other person. I
15 feel like I know some of these young Deputy Attorneys
16 General because for years I have been listening to
17 Judge Wallace extoll their accomplishments to me.
18 Again, he has helped countless young people in this
19 community, without ever there being any thought that
20 some day someone would stand before the political and
21 the legal leadership of this State, and acknowledge his
22 efforts.

23 Almost in closing, Governor Markell alluded to

1 the notes that came from the mock trial team
2 participants. Robin Lober showed me some of those
3 notes. There is a common theme to all of them. This
4 is from Michelle Barineau, "Before knowing Mr. Wallace
5 I, like many, was under the assumption that having a
6 passion to truly help others and entering the legal
7 profession were somehow mutually exclusive." Well,
8 that's Michelle Barineau, University of Virginia School
9 of Law Class of 2016. As she gets closer to joining
10 the Cartel, she will be, perhaps, be a little measured
11 and circumspect in her language. She went on to say
12 this; "Mr. Wallace proves this stereo-type wrong on a
13 daily basis." And isn't that exactly right. When I
14 talked to Robin Lober about the talk I was going to
15 give and ask for her advice she said; make sure you
16 talk about integrity, because to Paul, it's like
17 breathing in, and breathing out.

18 This position, this job, the prestige and the
19 power of it will not go to his head, it will not
20 corrupt him.

21 I said "almost in closing" because, again,
22 like with the Attorney General, you can't talk about
23 Judge Wallace and not talk about his family.

1 You know, it occurs to me, Benjamin, as the
2 father of three teenage daughters, isn't it always the
3 guys who are not driven by money who get the kids who
4 get the merit scholarships? For those of you who don't
5 know Benjamin and Ellie, don't know of them, I think
6 you are in for a treat. As to Lisa, any number of us
7 could stand here and talk about your character, your
8 accomplishments, we need more time. We are all mindful
9 that this day is yours as much as Paul's, better put;
10 it is yours together.

11 And we are also mindful that a couple of
12 guests of honor are not with us. To Judge Wallace, to
13 his family, to the office that produced him, and to the
14 court system that nurtured him, warmest
15 congratulations. God Bless you, Your Honor.

16 (Applause.)

17 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: We would like now to
18 recognize Judge Wallace's son Ben and daughter Ellie.

19 ELYSSA WALLACE: Good afternoon, everyone.
20 For those who don't know me, my name is Ellie Wallace
21 and this is my brother, Ben.

22 BENJAMIN WALLACE: It is odd being in this
23 setting, hearing so many people talk about your father,

1 the man that raised you. There have been a lot of
2 really wonderful things said about Dad today, from the
3 bottom of our hearts, Ellie and I would both like to
4 say --

5 ELYSSA WALLACE: What in the world are you
6 people talking about?

7 BENJAMIN WALLACE: Do you have the right Paul
8 Wallace? Do we have the right Paul Wallace?

9 ELYSSA WALLACE: Mr. Clark, you describe him
10 as being a tough prosecutor, but also a fair one.

11 BENJAMIN WALLACE: We compiled cumulative logs
12 of our groundings and the offenses we were penned up
13 for, we will let everybody take a look afterwards and
14 you tell us whether you are sticking by the Champion of
15 Fairness.

16 ELYSSA WALLACE: Mr. Biden, you also talked
17 about his time in the AG's office. You said he could
18 be an attorney anywhere. You said that he was an
19 advocate of uncommon skill.

20 BENJAMIN WALLACE: Attorney General Biden,
21 while we respect your opinion, we have been arguing
22 with this guy for years. If he uses the same
23 techniques in Delaware courtrooms that he did in our

1 kitchen, namely retreating over and over again to the
2 "because I am your father and I said so." It is kind
3 of a wonder he ever won a case.

4 ELYSSA WALLACE: The most egregious
5 mischaracterization of Dad that we heard wasn't
6 actually anything that was said in the courtroom today.

7 BENJAMIN WALLACE: No, it was something that
8 our mom said immediately after Dad's nomination to the
9 Superior Court went public.

10 ELYSSA WALLACE: Like any good 21st Century
11 kids, as soon we heard that the news went public, we
12 did the most natural and, quite frankly, the most
13 important thing.

14 BENJAMIN WALLACE: We posted it to Facebook.

15 ELYSSA WALLACE: Our combined status updates
16 got some wildly enthusiastic responses. We got
17 somewhere in the neighborhood of 180 Likes. For those
18 of you people that are less tech savvy, that is
19 basically the equivalent of 180 of our friends giving
20 Dad a virtual high five.

21 BENJAMIN WALLACE: That wasn't altogether
22 unexpected. We were thrilled about the news, and we
23 thought that our friends would probably be, as well.

1 But what was unexpected was the conclusion that our mom
2 drew when we told her about Dad's new found Facebook
3 popularity.

4 ELYSSA WALLACE: When we told her about all of
5 this, this was her response: I guess dad must be
6 pretty cool now, guys.

7 BENJAMIN WALLACE: Mom, Mom, Mom, just because
8 he is a judge now does not mean that he is cool.
9 Granted there is an inherent coolness to wearing robes
10 to work everyday, but on the other side of the scale.

11 ELYSSA WALLACE: He still tucks his T-shirts
12 into his sweatpants. One time, when trying to refer to
13 something as "off the chain" which is cool in and of
14 itself, he mistakenly referred to it as "Off the
15 Cheesy." He still plays Dungeons and Dragons.

16 BENJAMIN WALLACE: That last one is not
17 technically true.

18 ELYSSA WALLACE: I made that one up. At this
19 point I feel that is not that big of a stretch for Dad.

20 BENJAMIN WALLACE: We do have to give credit
21 where credit is due. While I wouldn't call Dad cool,
22 per se, a lot of the things he has done for you and me,
23 for Mom, for other people over the years have been the

1 definition of cool.

2 ELYSSA WALLACE: Like taking hours and hours
3 out of his weekly schedule to coach both our high
4 school mock trial teams. Here today, are both of his
5 former co-coaches, and many of our former teammates.
6 People who have worked with him and learned from him
7 are here in attendance.

8 BENJAMIN WALLACE: Mr. Clarke spoke to this
9 already, but I think the fact so many of them are here
10 today, so many of them called to say how sorry they
11 were they couldn't be here, speaks volumes about Dad,
12 speaks to the impact that he's had on the young people
13 that he coached.

14 ELYSSA WALLACE: Then there is the mentorship
15 and sage advice he has given to the countless numbers
16 of young attorneys who he supported during his 23 years
17 in office. Now, whenever we meet any of them, like his
18 new law clerk Kyle, for example, they never hesitate to
19 tell us just how kind and caring, how supportive, our
20 Dad has always been to them.

21 BENJAMIN WALLACE: To us that makes perfect
22 sense, because that is not just the Paul Wallace who
23 came to work in Wilmington everyday. That is the Paul

1 Wallace that came home to us at night; selfless,
2 gracious, kind, that is Paul Wallace in every facet of
3 his life.

4 ELYSSA WALLACE: Ben kind of just did this and
5 we could honestly do much more of it, stand here and
6 serve platitudes about our Dad, but even if we did, we
7 could honestly never, ever get you to understand how
8 great of a father he actually is.

9 BENJAMIN WALLACE: Because it wasn't always
10 big, flashy, Hollywood displays of compassion. It
11 wasn't always these sweeping gestures of paternal love,
12 I mean there were definitely some of those.

13 ELYSSA WALLACE: Most of the time it was just
14 the small but meaningful acts of love. Dad never ever
15 missed a baseball game of Ben's, or swim meet of mine,
16 although I am pretty sure they were long and painful to
17 sit through.

18 BENJAMIN WALLACE: He was never too busy to
19 help us with homework, unless it was math, then he had
20 a very important brief to write and we should talk to
21 our mother.

22 ELYSSA WALLACE: Those things might sound
23 small to you, but from our perspective, that is what

1 real love actually is. It is always being there.
2 Little things and the big things, small struggles and
3 the major trials, small successes, great triumphs, and
4 our Dad has always been there for us, for Mom, for our
5 grandparents, and for everyone in his life.

6 BENJAMIN WALLACE: Which is why, when push
7 comes to shove, I guess you could say that Mom was
8 right, Dad can be pretty cool.

9 ELYSSA WALLACE: But you know what, we
10 actually kind of forgot to mention the absolute coolest
11 things about dad.

12 BENJAMIN WALLACE: What?

13 ELYSSA WALLACE: Like the fact he actually had
14 the sense to marry a woman who is just as great of a
15 parent and a person as he is.

16 BENJAMIN WALLACE: And?

17 ELYSSA WALLACE: And the fact he has two
18 incredibly cool kids.

19 BENJAMIN WALLACE: Thank you all for your
20 time. It really means a lot to us that you are here
21 today. I know that it means a lot to Mom and Dad.

22 ELYSSA WALLACE: Thank you so much.

23 (Applause.)

1 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: I recognize the
2 Honorable Randy J. Holland, Justice of the Delaware
3 Supreme Court.

4 HON. RANDY J. HOLLAND: Thank you, President
5 Judge Vaughn, Governor Markell, Chief Justice, Attorney
6 General Biden, distinguished members of the Bench and
7 Bar. It is an honor for me to participate in the
8 ceremony. I was thinking about some guidelines that
9 are generally available for public speakers. Guideline
10 number one is; never follow the Honoree's children. We
11 kind of crossed the bridge on that one. Another
12 guideline is early on in your remarks try to introduce
13 some humor. I know Judge Wallace and many of you in
14 the courtroom have said well, I guess we are going
15 beyond that because everyone knows Justice Holland has
16 no sense of humor. The reason I understand why people
17 would say that, they only know me in the courtroom, and
18 it is true, there really is not a place in the
19 courtroom for humor because the people who are
20 litigating their case take it extremely seriously, and
21 just don't find it funny at all.

22 Outside the courtroom, it is appropriate. I
23 know trial judges and I see many here, smile outside

1 the courtroom. I know that one of the things that
2 makes you smile is the Delaware Supreme Court.

3 This comes about because almost all of the
4 Supreme Court is here today, almost everyone on the
5 Supreme Court was a trial judge. The incumbent trial
6 judges say, "What happened to our friends? They used
7 to be trial judges. They all must be drinking the same
8 water." You know, that's true. They are drinking the
9 same water.

10 So I decided I would give Judge Wallace an
11 upper hand on his colleagues. I brought with me for
12 you, Judge Wallace, a Delaware Supreme Court drinking
13 mug. Now, you want to use that when you are writing
14 opinions. I want you to know none of my colleagues
15 have authorized me giving you any of the water.

16 Seriously, we are in a Superior Court room and
17 a special session of the Superior Court, and as the
18 Governor knows, for almost a decade the Delaware
19 judicial system that been ranked number one in the
20 United States for fairness, and impartiality, and the
21 credit goes to the trial court, and certainly all the
22 trial courts.

23 When you look at the criteria that leads to

1 that number one ranking for fairness and impartiality,
2 it really goes to what the Superior Court's
3 jurisdiction is. So it is fair to say, Judge Wallace
4 is joining the number one general jurisdiction trial
5 court in the United States. It is also fair to say
6 that with him joining the court, he adds luster to that
7 number one ranking.

8 We have heard a lot about public service, and
9 it is interesting to me when you think about the legal
10 profession, because any definition of the word
11 profession includes an element of public service.

12 And Judge Wallace has devoted his life to
13 public service, primarily in the office of the Attorney
14 General, but he has done that in two important
15 respects. He has done it as a trial attorney, and he
16 has done it as an appellate attorney. Both of those
17 have different skills that will serve him well as a
18 judge on the court.

19 When we are looking for someone to join the
20 Judiciary, the Governor is looking for someone who is
21 intelligent, has the right background, the right work
22 ethic, personal integrity, and a reasoned judgement.

23 Judge Wallace has all of those. I have said many

1 times, one of the hardest jobs in the legal profession
2 is to be a prosecutor, a Deputy Attorney General. The
3 reason that's the hardest job in the legal system is
4 because you are an adversary representing the interest
5 of the State, but as the name Department of Justice
6 connotes, you have to give the defendant a fair trial.

7 The lawyers in the room know what it means to
8 have Brady material. Not only do you have to give the
9 defendant a fair trial, you have to produce evidence
10 for the defendant that you know about that could be
11 exculpatory or helpful. And so it's a very difficult
12 job to be an adversary and to discharge this duty you
13 have as an Officer of the Court through the
14 administration of justice.

15 Judge Wallace, as a trial attorney, would
16 sometimes argue his appeals, and I remember one appeal
17 he argued, in particular, that had to do with Brady
18 material, and I have been on the Delaware Supreme Court
19 27 years, you can multiply that by the number of cases,
20 I have heard thousands of oral arguments, and what he
21 said in discussing his understanding of his Brady
22 obligation is one of the most memorable oral arguments
23 I ever heard.

1 He said he understood his duty to look at the
2 file, to look at the file carefully, and to err on the
3 side of the defendant in the interest of the justice.
4 That is the same type of character and integrity that
5 is going to serve him well as a judge of the Superior
6 Court.

7 Now, when Judge Wallace joined the Appellate
8 Division, it was a little bit of a shift for him, but
9 not much. I looked at our data base, and I found that
10 just over that tenure, he's entered his appearance in
11 70 Delaware Supreme Court cases, and he's argued most
12 of them. To put that in perspective, if I asked all
13 the lawyers in the room to stand up that have ever
14 argued more than five cases in the Delaware Supreme
15 Court, there wouldn't be very many people. He has
16 argued an incredible amount of cases.

17 Last year when Justice Scalia was here, Judge
18 Wallace was at the book signing. I introduced him to
19 Justice Scalia as one of the best appellate advocates
20 in the State of Delaware, and I meant that. There is
21 some objective barometers to know why I said that. One
22 of the things that we find when we are doing appellate
23 work is that the brief that is written is the judge's

1 companion. What Judge Wallace knew as an advocate is
2 that you can help your client by helping the Court.

3 The ultimate compliment you can get is if the
4 Court adopts your brief as the basis for its opinion.
5 And if you look at the opinions Judge Wallace -- cases
6 he argued, and the opinions that followed his argument,
7 you will see that the opinion of the Court frequently
8 tracked the arguments in his brief, because he was an
9 effective advocate. Again, he was effective, because
10 he had the same skills that you will see he will need
11 on the Superior Court.

12 We hear the concept harmless error, it does
13 not mean there wasn't an error, it simply means that
14 there wouldn't be a reversal. Judge Wallace was always
15 candid with the Court, and if something was wrong, he
16 would say to the Court, I can't tell you that's the way
17 justice should be administered. It is unfortunate it
18 happened in this case, and it should not happen again.
19 But in the context of this case, the conviction can be
20 affirmed. Frequently he was right. But he was right
21 by preserving his credibility by being candid with the
22 Court.

23 We talked about being hard working as an

1 element we like to see in a judge, and the Governor
2 alluded to Judge Wallace's work on death penalty cases.
3 My career on the Bench is a little longer than his as
4 an AG, so I sat on all of the death penalty cases he
5 argued, and I can tell you he was in the Delaware
6 Supreme Court, Superior Court, the Federal District
7 Court, and Third Circuit Court of Appeals
8 simultaneously, as the date of an execution would come
9 close, writing briefs, and making arguments. He was
10 working 24 hours a day, and his work product was
11 superb.

12 We looked forward to seeing what he wrote
13 because he knew that he was going to be -- we knew that
14 he was going to be helpful. Now, the other quality
15 that we talked about that we need in a judge is
16 judgement, reasoned judgment. The philosopher Kant
17 wrote a book called the Critique of Pure Reason. In
18 his book he said: You can have all of the technical
19 ability. You can know all of the rules, but if you
20 don't have reason and judgement, you are not going to
21 be able to function. Judge Wallace has reasoned
22 judgment, and he has demonstrated that time and time
23 again throughout his career.

1 It is interesting how that tracks something
2 that Justice Story said in 1829 to the first-year
3 students at Harvard Law School. His speech was called
4 The Gathered Wisdom of a Thousand Years. What Justice
5 Story said is after a thousand years, we have come to
6 learn that judges and lawyers are the guardians of
7 democracy. They are the sentinels that preserve the
8 rule of law, and they preserve the rule of law with
9 their reasoned judgment.

10 As Judge Wallace starts his judicial career, I
11 thought it would be helpful for him to reflect on this
12 a little further, and what I brought along is a book by
13 Justice Steven Breyer called Making Our Democracy Work,
14 a Judge's Point of View. I contacted Justice Breyer,
15 and he has inscribed the book for you, Judge Wallace,
16 and he says, "Congratulations and best wishes on your
17 judicial career. Steven Breyer."

18 I think today, as we hear about Judge Wallace
19 and why he is going to be a very special judge, we can
20 all agree that he is ready to take his place as a
21 sentinel of democracy. So all of us join Justice
22 Breyer in wishing you the best in your judicial career.

23 (Applause.)

1 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: Thank you, Justice
2 Holland. Now it's my privilege to call upon our new
3 Judge for his greetings.

4 HON. PAUL R. WALLACE: Thank you, President
5 Judge Vaughn. Never put your kids on the program.
6 That, by the way, Lisa does not always show the best
7 judgement. That was her idea.

8 Welcome, Chief Justice Steele, Justice Holland
9 and all the members of the Judiciary, Governor Markell,
10 Attorney General Biden, my many friends from the
11 Delaware Department of Justice. I am so honored and
12 humbled by your presence. It is amazing to me how many
13 people I see here today that I have been with for so
14 long.

15 One might figure by now I would know how to
16 address a courtroom of people, but as I sat down to
17 prepare what I would say today, I realized how ill
18 equipped I am to really relay what is in my heart.

19 As a prosecutor we are told never to go to our
20 audience's feelings. In fact, we are sanctioned for
21 doing exactly that; time and time again. Yet, that is
22 exactly what I wish I could do. I wish I could make
23 you all feel as I feel today.

1 The second part that makes it difficult for me
2 to talk today about this, are the things that my
3 parents taught my four sisters and my brother and
4 myself. That humility is an indispensable virtue.
5 That you should never put the focus on yourself. They
6 did this not by lecturing. They did it by daily
7 example. I wish they were here today, but their
8 actions, their work ethic, their living, breathing
9 example spoke far more loudly than words. They
10 instilled in us that we should use our talents and
11 energies to aide others, to care for others, and for
12 the betterment of others' lots. I have tried to live
13 that to the best that I can, because that is what they
14 would want me to do.

15 So even with as many times I have addressed
16 courtrooms, I have to tell you I am very, very
17 uncomfortable here.

18 My message comes in three parts. One is a
19 part of apology. The second is trying to express my
20 deep gratitude to many people who have helped me to be
21 where I am today. The last is a promise.

22 The apology is simple. In trying to express
23 the depth and breadth of my gratitude, and my

1 understanding of the vow that I just took, I am going
2 to fall short. I have neither the time, the words, nor
3 the skill to adequately relay those. So to those I may
4 miss mentioning now, and the faltering manner that I
5 may do so but those that I do mention, please know it
6 is not for lack of will, it is for the simple lack of
7 the ability to do justice to what I wish I could tell
8 you.

9 When Lisa and I talked about what I should say
10 she suggested, in effect, just a few thank yous to
11 those who supported me on the path to this occasion.
12 Perhaps I am feeling the robe, perhaps it is that we
13 have armed people who would be supposed to protect me
14 I can say this to Lisa: You are wrong.

15 Unfortunately the robe and those armed people
16 will not help me on the ride home today, but it is true
17 there are far more than just a few thank yous to be
18 given. A little history might put this in context, and
19 never go after Justice Holland and talk history. But I
20 know he does not know this story, so I am going to go
21 with it.

22 On January 23, 1894, at Kenton Parsonage,
23 which is in Kent County, the Reverend JM Collins

1 bestowed the rite of Holy Matrimony upon Walter and
2 Lydia, who were listed later in Delaware Public Records
3 as a Kent County farmer and a housewife. As was common
4 for any farmer and his wife in those times, they
5 started a large brood. The sixth of their children, of
6 their nine children, was a little boy named Charles
7 Lees who was known as Charlie for the rest of his life.

8 Unfortunately, as was all too often the case
9 back then, late 19th, early 20th Century, Lydia lost
10 her tenth child, and died from complications of that
11 child birth. Lydia was only 34 years old. Charlie was
12 just 18 days past his ninth birthday, and 24 months
13 later, he lost his father Walter.

14 Charlie and his eight brothers and sisters
15 were now orphaned. They were farmed out to whichever
16 relatives or friends might be able to take them in.

17 Charlie, luckily he found a loving home with
18 his grandfather who was a Scottish immigrant, by trade
19 a ship builder, and once he came to America, he became
20 an oysterman and farmer in the Bridgeton, New Jersey
21 area.

22 Charlie had no resources to even finish
23 secondary school. He joined the Army as soon as he was

1 of age. He worked his life as a truck driver. He had
2 a large and loving family, but he would never again
3 live in Delaware.

4 On January 23, 2013, to the day, 119 years
5 after Lydia and Walter were married in Kent County,
6 their great grandson was in Kent County for an equally
7 happy occasion, he would be unanimously confirmed as a
8 Superior Court Judge by the State Senate.

9 A short while ago I took the oath to fulfill
10 these duties on the Bible that was a gift from Walter
11 to Lidia on their wedding day.

12 Governor, I am so deeply grateful for the
13 profound honor and privilege for the opportunity to
14 take this next step in a public service career that's
15 meant so much to me. To serve the people of this State
16 as a Judge of the Superior Court. Thank you for
17 confirming the wisdom of Lisa's and my decision to
18 repatriate my family to Delaware. Our once orphaned
19 family is back, and thriving after a century of not
20 being here.

21 That certainly would not have happened, also,
22 without the work of the JNC. I have been blessed by
23 having the support of the JNC, more than a couple

1 times. We won't go into that.

2 Three days after I graduated law school, I
3 began my work in the Attorney General's Office. Then
4 Attorney General Charlie Oberly took a chance on me, a
5 young, and wholly untested lawyer, who had no outward
6 signs of any ties to Delaware, or its legal community.
7 By the way, Charlie relishes telling me three things:
8 One, he is not sure he would have hired me again; two,
9 he is not sure why he hired me in the first place; and
10 three, with 20/20 hindsight shown today, how
11 intuitively genius he was in doing so.

12 My good fortune in the Attorney General's
13 Office did not end with Charlie Oberly's tenure. I had
14 the favor of working in four administrations, four
15 different Attorneys General, each of whom provided me
16 with new challenges, and responsibilities. Thank you,
17 Judge Brady, Jane, thank you Beau. I wish I could
18 thank Carl Danberg in person, also, but I've got to get
19 out of this room, because he is going to be using it
20 pretty soon.

21 I am so glad to be coming on the Bench with
22 friends of mine who worked in the Attorney General's
23 Office, and ones who gave me a great opportunity. Over

1 the last, the ensuing 24 years from when I left law
2 school and started that job, I had great the privilege
3 of a varied and rich practice of representing the
4 people of this State, that few attorneys will ever
5 have. I just had so many opportunities to do so many
6 great and different things there.

7 To members of the General Assembly, who I also
8 worked in front of for so long, I would like to talk
9 about a little bit of a story that meant a great deal
10 to me.

11 I knew first hand from my work with the
12 General Assembly, of the decent men and women who are
13 true citizen legislators of our State. But that
14 decency was in full display on the day of my
15 confirmation. My parents cannot be here today. My
16 father's health just does not allow it, so they could
17 not be. But they did come to Legislative Hall for my
18 confirmation. My mother starts all of our
19 conversations with the nickname she has used since I
20 was a baby. I see my sister smiling. No, I will not
21 say it. I am not putting that on the record.

22 Suffice it to say it was adequately
23 descriptive, however, of my pudgy little self who

1 tended to waddle more than walk when I was small. But
2 my parents had never seen me in court. They never knew
3 me as the professional, Mr. Wallace. When they were in
4 chambers in the Senate, each Senator made a point of
5 seeking out my parents, chatting with them personally,
6 praising my work and selection. My mom is a strong
7 woman, she has to be with six of us, and the handful
8 that my Dad is. She was simply overwhelmed. So was I.

9 I am so grateful for that gift of peace of
10 mind they gave her and to my father. Because parents,
11 no matter how old their children are, want to be sure
12 their kids are doing okay.

13 The Supreme Court: Mr. Chief Justice, Justice
14 Holland, Justice Jacobs, Justice Ridgely. The last
15 five years of my practice I had the rare privilege of
16 appearing almost exclusively before the Delaware
17 Supreme Court, and it was incredibly rewarding. I
18 didn't realize it was that many cases.

19 As any member of the legal community knows,
20 our Court has a hot bench, it demands thorough
21 preparation, and truly keeps the lawyers on their
22 intellectual toes. I, time and again, was on the
23 business end of some pretty tough questioning, and not

1 surprisingly, although, Justice Holland was very kind
2 in saying so, the Court did not always agree with my
3 view on the issue, and the way to resolve it. But I
4 would not have traded one opportunity I had to appear
5 there. And as you have just seen, both from the Chief
6 Justice and many justices here and Justice Holland
7 speaking on my behalf, I couldn't have asked for
8 greater respect as an advocate and support for my
9 efforts before the Court and during my nomination and
10 confirmation process. Thank you.

11 I was lucky enough to work in this court as an
12 advocate long enough and often enough that I believe I
13 probably appeared one time or another before almost
14 every judge to sit on this Court in the last 24 years,
15 upstate and downstate. I have learned so much from
16 each one of you, and I hope that I can take that and
17 put it into my practice as your colleague.

18 I could not have asked for a warmer welcome to
19 the Court. I have been the regular recipient of visits
20 making sure that I am okay, that I know where I am
21 going. The first few weeks they would hear the zipper
22 of my robe going up and someone would say "go with
23 him." That is happening less. Thank you all so very

1 much. I do appreciate it. I look forward to working
2 on this Court.

3 For my time as a practitioner in this Court, I
4 also well understand Judicial Officers are but the
5 smallest segment of the workforce that labors to
6 administer justice here. The judicial secretaries,
7 administrative staff, clerks, bailiffs, court
8 reporters, and countless others give life to that
9 process. I have been the beneficiary of your fine
10 work; as an attorney, now as a judge. I am lucky to
11 start my judicial career with a wonderful assistant
12 Justine Donohue, and law clerk Kyle Gaye. Thank you
13 both for agreeing to work with me.

14 To the Donohue, Evans and Gay families, if you
15 are here, I am going to bank an apology right now for
16 the future frustration I am inevitably going to send
17 your wife, daughter, or mother home with. Hopefully
18 that will get better, also.

19 This is my third opportunity to express my
20 gratitude to my many friends at the Delaware Department
21 of Justice, and other members of the Criminal Bar. I
22 hope by now you understand how very much you have all
23 meant to me during my career. I am confident in saying

1 there is simply no way any member of the Bench can have
2 a deeper respect for all that you do.

3 As I just spoke about the support staff of the
4 court, so, too, the Department of Justice. It is the
5 secretaries, and paralegals, and social workers, and
6 everyone else who make that place hum. Who helped me;
7 taught me to become, hopefully, a better lawyer. You
8 are the best of what there is in public service, and
9 thank you for trusting me to be there with you.

10 There is, in my mind, no better compliment
11 that you can give another lawyer than to call him a
12 teacher or a mentor, because that means that you trust
13 him, and trusting him in the work that we did is
14 incredible. Thank you.

15 To my mock trial students, to Mike and to
16 Robin, thank you so much for allowing me into that
17 program. Again, it took a great deal of trust. After
18 Mike checked me out and made sure he was okay with me.
19 Then for the next seven years, I had a great time.
20 Again, so many wonderful things were said by the kids
21 who came through the program.

22 To his students I can tell you this, I learned
23 far more from you, than you will ever learn from me.

1 You made me focus, again, on what my craft was. You
2 made me focus on what I knew, and what I didn't know.
3 You made me better. Thank you.

4 Thank you to my many family and friends who
5 are here today and have been there for us. With every
6 time of transition in life, you tend to reflect a bit
7 on what you have lost, and unfortunately my family and
8 I have suffered great loss recently.

9 I wish so much my sister Lisa was here. She
10 was one of my biggest fans, and a great cheerleader. I
11 am so grateful that my niece and her husband, and my
12 sister's grandson are here.

13 We also lost my wife's parents. It would be
14 strange to call them in-laws because that would be to
15 put some distance that simply wasn't there. They were
16 Mom and Dad to me for more than half my life. Their
17 love and support was substantial. Without their
18 day-to-day involvement in my family's life, I could
19 have never stayed in public service. I know how proud
20 they would be here today.

21 To you two! You, Ben, and you, Ellie, are the
22 greatest treasures of my life. I am lucky to be your
23 Dad. I was lucky to be your coach. I am even luckier

1 to be your friend. No father is more blessed than I
2 am.

3 Lisa, for my entire legal career, I worked in
4 public service. We've heard that takes some sacrifice.
5 To me, it was fulfilling and gratifying. No one bore
6 the brunt of that sacrifice more than Lisa. I
7 sometimes wonder if self-consciously I didn't go into
8 private practice because it would seem to be some type
9 of betrayal to call someone else my partner. You are
10 the only one who deserves that title. You have been
11 that for me in every sense of the word.

12 And so now my promise:

13 When the Governor called me to tell me about
14 his nomination, I must admit, for my part the
15 conversation went somewhat awkwardly. He is smiling
16 because he knows that.

17 Many know that it was not the first time I
18 received a phone call from a Governor to tell what his
19 or her decision was in a judicial nomination. As I
20 explained to Governor Markell, I didn't know how this
21 conversation should go. I didn't know what to say.
22 After blundering a bit, I assured him I fully
23 understood and appreciated the tremendous trust he had

1 placed in me.

2 Now, Lisa, I am probably going to say the
3 second most shocking thing I will today: I was
4 absolutely wrong.

5 The events in this courthouse on February 11th
6 brought that reality in sharp relief to me. It seems
7 it was vial act by a disgruntled person dissatisfied
8 with the courts. Thereafter, engaging in unspeakable
9 cruelty and selfishness. It was an attack on the very
10 core of what we have all committed to for the
11 administration of justice in our State, and in our
12 Nation: The resolution of alleged wrongs and
13 grievances through peaceful means. In the hours after
14 I thought and I prayed about what had occurred.

15 One of the tenets of my faith's practice is
16 Communion with Saints. One on whom I often reflect is
17 St. Francis of Assisi. His prayer is always close to
18 me, and it's refrain, to me, is the call to do
19 precisely that which a judge must do. He implores to
20 be made an instrument of peace. I believe that we, as
21 judges, must do that everyday. We must strive to sit
22 as an incarnation of that ideal. We are called to
23 embody it through our exercise of impartiality, and

1 fairness, and above all justice.

2 I hope that I can meet the demands of this
3 great honor. That I do, indeed, keep the trust of
4 those who appointed me, meet the expectations of my
5 friends, and my family, and my colleagues, and all
6 those who seek refuge in this Court.

7 I can pledge to you now all that I can control
8 in that regard; that is, my unflagging effort to do
9 exactly that. Thank you again for being here today.
10 It has meant so much to me, and so much to my family.

11 (Applause.)

12 HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN: Please remain standing
13 for the benediction which will be given by Father
14 Laverde.

15 REVEREND LAVERDE: Let us pray. Merciful God,
16 who constantly shows us the way to administer the law,
17 as our new Judge fulfills this trust, listen with your
18 wisdom. May every decision he makes be seen as just
19 and merciful for those he is called to serve. May he
20 never show a deference for the powerful, or deference
21 for the weak, but may he give a fair judgment to all.
22 Amen.

23 HON. PRESIDENT JUDGE VAUGHN: Thank you,

1 Father. Ladies and gentlemen, that concludes this
2 special session of the Court. You are welcome to
3 remain and greet our new judge in the reception out in
4 the hallway. Court is adjourned.

5 (Whereupon the proceedings were adjourned.)

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