

Statement of Shana M. Broussard
Nominee for Commissioner of the Federal Election Commission

Thank you, Chairman Blunt, Ranking Member Klobuchar, and members of the Committee. It is an honor to appear before you as a nominee for the position of Commissioner on the Federal Election Commission.

I'd first like to take the opportunity to thank the most instrumental people in my life, my parents James and Gainell Broussard of Gibson, Louisiana. My father is retired from the United States Air Force after 25 years of service to our Country and my mother is a retired middle school teacher, having taught in the very same school she attended as a child. Together, they instilled within me a pride in public service and a commitment to community. I also want to thank my brothers Juan and Pierre Broussard. I could ask for no greater support than my older and younger brother. I also thank all my friends that have supported and encouraged me throughout this process.

Like my parents, public service and a commitment to community have guided the course of my professional career and personal life. I have over two decades of combined experience working in local and federal government. After law school, I took a position as an Assistant District Attorney in my home state of Louisiana prosecuting major crimes and then worked as the Deputy Disciplinary Counsel for the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board. When I arrived in Washington, DC in 2007, I entered federal service, becoming an Attorney-Advisor in the Internal Revenue Service's Office of Professional Responsibility. And since 2008, I have been with the Federal Election Commission, first serving as a staff attorney and then as counsel to Commissioner Walther. As you know, the mission of the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") is to protect the integrity of the federal campaign finance process by providing transparency and enforcing and administering federal campaign finance laws in a fair manner. Although Congress created the FEC in 1975, the agency's mission remains not only relevant today, but the need for the timely and fair enforcement of the nation's campaign finance laws has never been more urgent. During my 12-year tenure at the FEC, I have worked to advance the agency's mission, consistent with the statutes enacted by Congress and interpreted by the courts.

As a staff attorney, I handled a variety of enforcement matters that raised complex questions of statutory and regulatory interpretation. Importantly, I carefully considered each matter, making sure that my recommended disposition was supported by the facts and the law. My recommendations were fair yet firm and were always made with an aim toward promoting transparency in the campaign finance laws. Division leadership recognized my efforts twice, honoring me with Outstanding Performance Awards in 2011 and 2014. As counsel for Steven T. Walther since 2015, I have primarily managed his enforcement and compliance caseload, including matters from the Reports Analysis Division, Audit Division, Alternative Dispute Resolution Office, and Administrative Fines Office. Working with Commissioner Offices to

build consensus in resolving enforcement matters has also been an important part of this role. In addition, by working closely with Commissioner Walther in the management and overall operation of the FEC, I understand the supervisory role of an FEC Commissioner.

Although I have enjoyed each year working for the American people at the FEC, I never envisioned that I would be testifying today before this Committee on my qualifications and interest in serving as a Commissioner. In only one instance has an individual already with the Commission been nominated and confirmed by the Senate to serve as a Commissioner. But having knowledge of the agency and campaign finance law is what makes me particularly prepared to serve if the Senate confirms my nomination. If confirmed, I will approach my work as a Commissioner as I have done throughout my career in public service—with diligence, impartiality, and integrity. I will focus on executing the Commission's strategic objectives, namely, encouraging public confidence in the political process, promoting voluntary compliance by increased educational outreach, the timely enforcement of campaign finance laws, and supporting the continued high performance of the agency's workforce.

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Klobuchar, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I welcome any questions you may have.