

News Advisory

From the Rhode Island Judiciary



Statement from Melissa A. Long on her nomination to the R.I. Supreme Court

December 8, 2020: The following is a statement from Rhode Island Superior Court Associate Justice Melissa Austin Long on her selection by Governor Gina M. Raimondo to be an Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court:

“I am honored by Governor Raimondo’s nomination and humbled by the prospect of serving on the Rhode Island Supreme Court. I look forward to the consideration of my candidacy by the Rhode Island House and Senate.”

“As the great, great-granddaughter of slaves and the daughter of two U.S. Army Veterans who married six months prior to the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Loving v. Virginia*, I am acutely aware of the impact that our judiciary can have on the everyday lives of our citizens. If confirmed, I commit to serving with honor and integrity and to bringing all my energies and accumulated wisdom to the sacred task of rendering decisions that shape our society and our lives. Like so many of my heroes who have come before me, I aspire to understand and respect the stories of those that appear in our courts, and to appreciating that their stories matter – to them, to their families, and to others who are similarly situated.”

“Growing up as a child on military bases in the United States, Germany and Korea provided me perspective into what America and its institutions mean at home and abroad, and made me well aware of the sacrifices made to protect those ideals, including the rule of law and the fair and impartial administration of justice. I see judicial office as a public trust, and carry a solemn duty to enhance the public’s confidence in our legal system. It would be the honor of a lifetime to serve as an Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court.”

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