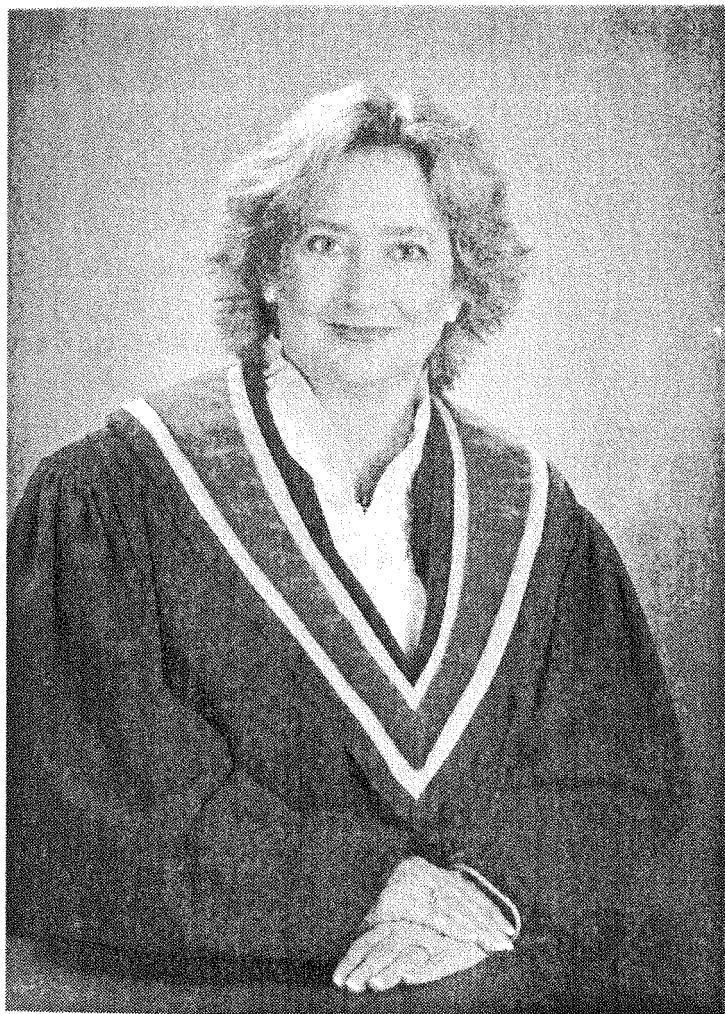


Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Installation

HONORABLE
DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

Omni William Penn Hotel
Grand Ballroom
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Thursday, January 10, 2008
10 O'Clock A.M.



HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

Proceeding

(Call to order by Court Crier, Brian Minner.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Good morning. Good morning, everyone.

(Chorus of good mornings.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Welcome to the ceremonial session of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania sitting in the City of Pittsburgh, County of Allegheny.

This is a joyous occasion for all of us and, I will make some remarks later, it's especially joyous for Justice Elect Debra Todd.

We will start off with the invocation by Reverend Dr. David P. Gleason, Senior Pastor, First Lutheran Church of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Gleason.

REVEREND DR. GLEASON: Let us pray.

Oh Lord, our God, for your glory shines throughout the world. We commend our nation and our Commonwealth to your merciful care, that we may live securely in peace and justice and be guided by your providence.

Give to all who are elected to positions of authority the wisdom to know your will and the strength to do it. Help them to remember that they are called to serve your people with compassion and care as lovers of truth and justice.

Especially endow your servant Debra with the wisdom, strength, compassion and courage needed to serve faithfully and well as Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Chorus of amens.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Reverend Gleason.

INSTALLATION

We will now have musical selections performed by the Seneca Valley Senior High School Concert Choir under the direction of Aaron Magill and accompanied by the Reverend William W. Brewer, Jr. and Toni Keefer.

(Performance by choir.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: I guess that's why they're called the concert choir. Wonderful. Thank you.

Thank you, Aaron Magill, and thank you, Reverend Brewer and Toni Keefer, for that wonderful presentation.

I'd like to call at this time to come forward for the Pledge of Allegiance the following individuals: Lexxus Charles, Christopher Collins, Brian Rabenold, Rebecca Scales, Sydney Streib and Desirae Waters.

If we would all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: You may be seated.

Thank you, children. Thank you.

Good morning.

(Chorus of good mornings.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Good morning, Justice-To-Be Todd, your family, your many friends, elected officials in the audience, Reverend Clergy, members of the judiciary. This is a wonderful occasion. We sit in this ceremonial session of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. We sit on this happy occasion to welcome into our courtroom its newest member, Madame Justice Debra Todd.

After a hard-fought and I should note an expensive electoral process —

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: I guess everybody knows what that means, the citizens have spoken. And they have selected and placed their trust in Justice-Elect Todd to sit on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Justice Todd, you're about to become a member of a select body of Pennsylvanians, and even a few Englishmen,

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

who have occupied a seat on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

In fact, Justice Todd, you'll be the 172nd justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. And that all depends on how you count.

And that is because Captain William Crispin was named in 1684 by William Penn himself and the King of England to be the first Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Provincial Court, the forebearer of our Court.

To Captain Crispin's great misfortune, he never came to occupy the seat on this Court, because while sailing from England to the colony of Pennsylvania, Captain Crispin unfortunately died.

So you're either the 171st or 172nd.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Justice Todd, by the beneficence of the special trust conveyed to you by the power of the ballot and by the confidence of the majority of the citizens in the general election last held, you will take your seat on the oldest sitting Supreme Court in this nation.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court was founded in 1722 and has been in continual existence since that time, now over 285 years. This Court predates the establishment of the U.S. Supreme Court by 67 years.

However, this Court can trace its direct history even earlier to its direct forebearer William Penn's Provincial Court which was established June 4th, 1684 under William Penn's frame of government, which was the founding document for the Colony of Pennsylvania.

So our Court has now been in continual service of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for over 323 years.

Originally the Provincial Court did not function as an independent branch of government as we do today. The Provincial Court answered directly to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Sorry, Governor Rendell.

(Laughter.)

INSTALLATION

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: They answered directly to the Governor of Pennsylvania and then to the King of England.

However, in drafting the constitution of 1722, the Governor at that time sought to increase taxes. The General Assembly only agreed to give the Governor the increased taxation authority if the Supreme Court would be constituted as an independent branch of government.

The deal was struck in 1722 and here we sit today. And there go your hard-earned dollars as taxes.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Justice Todd will become only the fifth woman ever to serve on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, including the Provincial Court of Pennsylvania, in our 323-year history.

Three women, Justice Ann X. Alpern, Justice Juanita Kidd Stout and Justice Cynthia A. Baldwin, were appointed by their Governors to two-year terms of office to this Court.

Justice Sandra Newman in 1996 was the first woman elected to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to serve a ten-year term on this Court.

You, Justice Todd, will become only the second woman elected to serve a ten-year term on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

JUSTICE TODD: And the first Democrat.

(Applause.)

JUSTICE TODD: Sorry.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: I've got some assignments for you.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: I don't know if there's ever been a Supreme Court Justice held in contempt by —

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: But as you, Justice Todd, certainly will know, the Supreme Court is the court of last

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

resort in the judicial system of Pennsylvania. Our cases range widely and they include the breadth of topics ranging from criminal law to civil law to administrative law to constitutional law to election law.

As I always say, every day that I sit on the Supreme Court is another day of continuing legal education for me. And I believe my fellow justices would wholeheartedly agree with that statement.

You, Justice Todd, will find this observation to be more than just true, you'll find it to be an imperative. And just when you think an area of the law or even a point of the law is well settled, you will find the industrious and inventive attorneys of Pennsylvania somehow creating new theories about what was once thought to be settled law now requiring our further attention and resolution.

You will above all else find your work on this Court to be intellectually challenging. And I am certain, and I speak for my fellow justices, that you will be up to the task of meeting that challenge.

And of course the decisions that are made by this Court differ to a great extent from those decisions that you made on the Superior Court. Whereas the Superior Court generally decides appellate disputes between the parties to a matter, the Supreme Court decides issues that affect a broad range of parties and individuals across the entire state.

The decisions made by this Court affect more than just the parties to a single matter. An opinion by this Court in effect becomes the law of the land, applicable to all parties who have similar questions concerning similar legal matters.

So your service on this Court, Justice Todd, is a solemn duty, since you are sworn to uphold the Constitution of Pennsylvania, the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the Commonwealth.

Your service on this Court is a weighty duty because of the profound effect our decisions can have on the lives of all Pennsylvanians. Because this Court is an elected court, sometimes it is referred to in political terms as either a Democrat or a Republican court.

Those references are inaccurate. I am certain that you are thankful to everyone in the audience and all those who

INSTALLATION

worked to make your recent election the success that it has been, be they Democrat, Republican or non-partisan, and you should be.

But the individual justices who sit on this, the highest court of this state, are not elected to serve the parties under whose banner they ran. We are not elected to serve any particular constituency or any particular geographic region of Pennsylvania.

We who sit on this Court are simply elected to serve a higher calling, and that is to dispense justice. We sit on this Court to serve all the citizens of Pennsylvania, to dispense fair and impartial justice.

And that is justice for the most favored in our society and even justice for the most hated and despised in our society.

This Court is the third independent branch of our government designed by our constitution as an important check on the power of the other two branches, the executive and the legislative.

As has been said, the judiciary is the weakest branch. We do not wield the power of the purse, the power to tax or the power to legislate. We control no army, nor any police force, nor do we wield the governing power like the executive branch. We only dispense justice.

And any power that this Court has derives from that single beneficence as directed by the Constitution and the laws of the Commonwealth.

While we are dependent on the other branches of the government, we are not subservient to those branches. As an equal branch of government, our true power derives from the moral authority arising out of our jurisprudential decisions.

We command only by the force of this moral authority. And that force is clearly derived from the citizens' support for the rule of law and from those elected and appointed leaders who themselves believe in the rule of law.

As President John F. Kennedy said on the occasion of the desegregation of the University of Mississippi, "Our nation is founded upon the principle that observance of the law is the eternal safeguard of liberty. Defiance of the law is the surest road to tyranny."

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

So, Justice Todd, we on this Court, as a collegial body, we welcome you to our ranks. We welcome your enthusiasm and your fresh point of view. And I have full confidence that you will serve the citizens honorably, with diligence and with fidelity to the oath that you are taking this day.

Congratulations.

JUSTICE TODD: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Now comes the fun part of introducing the important members of this audience.

Would everybody please raise your right hand? You are all recognized by this Court as important people.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We do have some individuals here, there are two individuals that this Court would like to thank publicly for their service on our Court.

And that is Justice James Fitzgerald and Justice Cynthia Baldwin, who were appointed to terms on our Court and are now being replaced by Justice McCaffery and Justice Todd.

Would they please stand.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you.

There are members of the trial bench who are here in the — to my immediate — to my left. And if they would all please stand. Members of the Common Pleas Courts of Pennsylvania.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We introduce them en masse because we don't want to be here until about 4 o'clock. And the Governor has an appointment I'm sure.

We have members of the Superior Court including the President Judge, Kate Ford Elliott.

Would they please stand.

(Applause.)

INSTALLATION

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We have members of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania.

Would they please stand.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: The following elected officials have — let me introduce them, and if you could please hold your applause.

We have Janice Beall, who is the Beaver County Recorder of Deeds. If you could just stand when I mention your name and — Jan Beall.

We have Donald Cunningham, the Lehigh County Chief Executive.

Michael Finnerty, Allegheny County Council.

Carol Fiorucci, Beaver County Register of Wills.

Marjorie Fox, District Attorney — which county is that.

Marjorie Fox: Greene.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Greene County. The new district attorney.

Dan Frankel, elected state representative.

Ted Harhai, elected state representative.

Darlene Harris from the Pittsburgh City Council.

Larry Holmes, Commissioner, Haverford Township, in the eastern part of the state.

Bill Kortz, state representative.

Nick Kotik, state representative.

Controller Michael Lamb, Allegheny County.

Michael McCord, Schuylkill County Register of Wills.

Valerie McDonald Roberts, former Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds.

We have the sheriff, Allegheny County Sheriff, William Mullen.

William Romine, Mercer County Sheriff.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

Peggy Schneider, Treasurer of Elk County, with Elizabeth Matter.

Tim Solobay, state representative, Washington County.

Robert L. Wolfgang, Forest County Sheriff.

Jean Milko, former Allegheny County Jury Commissioner.

We have the mayor of Pittsburgh, Luke Ravenstahl.

Dave Buchowicz, Supervisor of South Park Township.

Rebecca Kennedy from Indiana.

And Peter Foltz from Indiana.

There may be other ones that we introduce along the way.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We now call upon Dan Onorato, the Chief Executive, Allegheny County, for welcoming remarks.

MR. ONORATO: May it please the Court, Chief Justice Castille and your fellow justices, Governor Rendell and other elected officials and other members of the judiciary, let me welcome you to Pittsburgh and Allegheny County on this exciting day for the newest justice, Justice Todd.

My role today is to give greetings. And Chief Justice Castille, I want you to know that your introduction about the equal branch of government from the judiciary, being a chief executive and holding the executive branch of a local government, I've learned, and sometimes I've learned the hard way, that you definitely are an equal branch of government —

(Laughter.)

MR. ONORATO: — when we try to make some decisions. And we learn from our mistakes, I can assure you.

I also want to welcome all the family and friends of the Todd family being here today. And if I could make a special congratulations to the other new justice, Seamus McCaffery. Congratulations, Justice.

INSTALLATION

(Applause.)

MR. ONORATO: And even though she was mentioned once before, a very good friend of mine, and I want to congratulate her and thank her for her historic service. Justice Baldwin.

Thank you again.

(Applause.)

MR. ONORATO: I met Debra Todd several years ago, but we got to really know each other in 1999 when I was running countywide for the first time and she was running statewide, I think for the first time.

And you really get to know people on the campaign trail. Anyone that has run for office, you know those late nights, and we're Democrats, so that means eating hotdogs at the events that we go to when we're running around. And you get to meet a lot of great people.

I actually think the electoral process is one of the best things that can happen because it forces all of us, the executive branch and the judicial branch, to deal with the people on a daily basis. You get to know everyone throughout the particular area that you're running.

And I got to know Debra Todd and her family. And you really get to know a lot about a person watching them go through that process. And I can honestly say today that the citizens of Pennsylvania are very lucky to have Debra Todd joining this Court.

And Debra, I want to congratulate you and your family for a great election and a tough election.

I also want to congratulate Steve and Alexandra. We know the pressures that are on the family as you're running for office. And having okay support at home is critical.

Debra Todd's career, you can see and read about it in the brochure, but I want to point out a few things. Debra truly is a resident of Southwestern Pennsylvania. When you see she was born and raised in Ellwood City and her father worked at J&L as a steelworker, that's a story about Southwestern Pennsylvania. And it produced great people. And I'm sure your parents are unbelievably proud and they've done a great job getting you where you are today.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

I also want to point out that Debra graduated from Chatham and the University of Pittsburgh, other strong ties to Southwestern Pennsylvania.

And if you didn't hear a little earlier today, this is the story. She is the first Democratic woman elected to the state Supreme Court, and I want to congratulate you on this historic moment also.

In one way it's an exciting time, but in other ways, too bad it took this long to get to that point. But I think it shows that Pennsylvania is moving in the right direction.

And the Chief Justice was absolutely right. Once they get to the bench, they represent all 12 million people in Pennsylvania regardless of the party affiliation.

One of the things that I wanted to say to Debra today, I want to thank her for asking me to give welcoming remarks. But I also want to thank her, just a few days ago she also swore me in to my second term. And to have somebody that you know and that you know personally is important in these types of events. And I want to thank you for agreeing to be there.

Justice Todd, I want to wish you well. I know the court is going to benefit from your life experiences and obviously your strong judicial background. And all of the residents of Pennsylvania are going to see what we know you can do in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

So we welcome you here today. I'm glad to be part of this historic event and this exciting ceremony today. And I want to congratulate Debra Todd on a long and hard-fought campaign, but really a great political background, a great family and a great individual that's going to make us all proud on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Congratulations, Justice.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Chief Executive Onorato.

We will now hear from Alexandra Todd, daughter of Madame Justice-Elect Debra Todd and Stephan Todd. She will bring greetings from the Todd family to all those assembled.

INSTALLATION

Alexandra TODD: Good morning.

(Chorus of good mornings.)

Alexandra TODD: Did I cut him off? I'm sorry.

All right. Debra McCloskey Todd, my mom, is officially a Supreme Court Justice today. The Todd family has been through quite a lot throughout this exciting and interesting journey. I know for sure that there were some rough times, but there were also some victories.

No one deserves this honor more than my mom. At home she is the best listener. And in the court, I couldn't imagine anyone else that you would want.

And my father does win the Best Dad of the Year award because of a funny story. During my homecoming, Mom was working the state and Dad took me shoe-shopping, something that would be last on his list of things to do. And to make sure they were acceptable, he texted a picture of them to ask my mom for her approval.

Little things like these happened often and just brought the family closer together.

Which reminds me that as a whole, we are thankful to each and every one of you for everything that you've done; for your support, help, and we just thank you for being there.

And another thing was this one time at a Lawrence County picnic, we were trying to make our appearance, and we were walking in and our two puppies we brought along with us jumped out of the car, which then lead us to spend 25 minutes chasing them around the picnic.

Certainly we made quite an appearance. And overall, I just wanted to tell everybody that no one could have worked any harder than my mom. And I am so proud of where she is today. And we all love her with all our hearts. And I am very confident that she will be an amazing Supreme Court Justice and serve everyone well.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Alexandra. That will probably be the best speech we hear at this ceremony.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: To the governor, sadly, it goes all downhill from you.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: I would like to call now on Professor Kenneth Gormley, Esquire, President of the Allegheny County Bar Association, for remarks.

MR. GORMLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice, and may it please the Court, distinguished guests, I'm the downhill part now.

I have the privilege of serving as President of the Allegheny County Bar Association. And it's an honor to stand before this distinguished body in this magnificent ballroom that has hosted many important occasions in the life of this region over the past century, to witness the installation of this particular new Justice to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

As you know, Chief Justice Castille, I've been fortunate to spend a good bit of my own career studying the Pennsylvania Constitution and the work of this Court, for which I have enormous respect.

And this Court really does, as Chief Justice Castille mentioned, serve as the anchor for this constitutional system. It is unique and uniquely important because it deals with issues that directly impact every citizen in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania every day.

And literally, our system cannot endure without a fair, impartial judiciary reflecting all of the diverse peoples who come within our borders in Pennsylvania.

And that's why it's so exciting to witness Debra Todd, who's both a professional colleague and a friend, take the oath today, because she really does embody the richest qualities of Western Pennsylvania and will constitute a shining addition to this Court.

This month, as most of you know, marks the beginning of a yearlong celebration commemorating the 250th anniversary of Pittsburgh and the contributions that this region has made to the nation.

INSTALLATION

And I know that Andy Susko, the President of the PBA, will be coming after me. I did want to remind him and other honored guests from Eastern PA that not everything in God's plan of creation began and ended in Philadelphia.

(Laughter and applause.)

MR. GORMLEY: And Debra is truly a living portrait of Western Pennsylvania's best qualities. As Dan Onorato mentioned, she grew up in Ellwood City, formerly only famous as the home of Arthur the Aardvark on kids' TV.

(Laughter.)

MR. GORMLEY: So now they're going to have to do a new show where they have this sparkly lady aardvark who becomes a justice.

(Laughter.)

MR. GORMLEY: Debra's father was a steelworker at J&L. And as one who grew up in a little mill town in the Mon Valley, I can tell you that many of the most remarkable people I've ever met come from that crucible.

It fostered qualities of hard work, determination, and a kind of simple honesty. And these are the qualities that have summarized Debra's life from start till this point.

As Dan mentioned, she received her bachelor's degree up the street at Chatham College, then an all women's college, and was already drawn to public service work at that time on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

At Pitt Law School, up the street, she was a moot court champ, an oral advocacy whiz, and I just learned from Professor Meisel for whom she was a TA, yesterday, that she also earned tuition money by delivering singing telegrams for Western Union dressed in clown suit.

(Laughter.)

MR. GORMLEY: I think that would fetch a good buck on eBay today.

(Applause.)

MR. GORMLEY: In legal practice before going on the bench, she was a topnotch litigator, active in the bar associa-

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

tion, contributed countless hours, always giving back to the profession.

And the clown job wasn't a fluke I should tell you. For those of you who don't know, Debra is truly multi-talented. In the mold of other notable Pittsburghers like Gene Kelly and Christina Aguilera, she's actually a fantastic singer and dancer.

And for years Judge Todd wowed audiences at the bench-bar conferences at Seven Springs as part of the infamous ACBA Players. And one of her most memorable performances was dressed as a member of The Supremes, wearing a purple sequined gown and police hat, singing Stop in the Name of Law.

(Laughter.)

MR. GORMLEY: So, all I can say is that when Justice Todd teams up with Justice Eakin on the harmonica, this is going to be one of the most musically versatile courts in the country.

(Laughter.)

MR. GORMLEY: And in fact, Dan Onorato, I want to tell you that you may want to consider raising revenues with something like the drink tax in Allegheny County by charging admission to Supreme Court sessions.

(Laughter.)

MR. GORMLEY: I'd just like to close by saying that the truest proof that Debra Todd personifies the best of this region is that family is an inseparable part of everything she has done and achieved.

Steve Todd, who is currently president of the bar association's charitable foundation and has made remarkable contributions of his own to the legal community, was with Debra every step of the way in this campaign for the high court.

Steve literally retired from U. S. Steel to be at Debra's side and was her most devoted volunteer, a wonderful thing to behold.

Steve did hide, I noticed, from the cameras when they were filming those family commercials, but that was only because he quickly realized Alex was much prettier on film.

INSTALLATION

But speaking of Alex, who we just heard from a minute ago, here's a young woman whom Debra and Steve adopted from Russia when she was about three years old. And what a beautiful young woman she has grown up to be.

Chelsea Clinton has nothing on Alex Todd. She's a top honor student, a great singer and dancer like her mom, the perfect testament to a caring mother and father who together have brought all of us to this special occasion in this ballroom today, a fitting way to kick off the 250th anniversary of a very special city and a very special new justice who is an integral part of it.

This Court will surely be stronger and more graceful in its essential work as Justice Debra Todd assumes one of its seven seats today.

On behalf of 6,600 members of the Allegheny County Bar Association, I leave with a silent prayer that she will dispense justice with equanimity and wisdom; that she will carry forward the richest traditions of this Court, the oldest court in North America; and that she will continue to serve as living proof that a fair and dispassionate and learned judiciary is the secret to the longevity of this, the greatest democracy in the world.

Debra, we're so very proud of you.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Alexandra Todd's speech was better than that one.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We'd now like to introduce to you the President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Andrew F. Susko.

MR. SUSKO: Chief Justice Ronald Castille, esteemed members of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Governor Rendell, distinguished judges and guests and family and friends of Justice Todd.

It is indeed my high honor and special privilege on behalf of the nearly 30,000 members of our Pennsylvania Bar Association to be a part of this special celebration recognizing the addition of a truly outstanding jurist to the highest court in Pennsylvania, Justice-Elect Debra Todd.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

We celebrate with great joy the addition of a woman to our Supreme Court; as you've heard, the second elected woman justice in Pennsylvania and the first woman Democrat to be elected in the long and storied history of this high court, a history dating back to its inception as our nation's oldest court, which began in 1722, some 285 years ago.

We pause and reflect at this special occasion on the critical importance of this Court of last resort and the institution of our justice system here in Pennsylvania, a Court that vigilantly protects and consistently defends the rights and liberties of all persons in this Commonwealth in accordance with the rule of law.

And when we speak of this Court acting as a guardian of all of the persons in the Commonwealth, we know as an organized bar and legal community that certain attributes or traits of individual judges are essential to a fair and effective judiciary and justice system.

And we also know that so many of these attributes embodied by the life and career of Justice-Elect Debra Todd are on shining display here today. During her whole legal career, Justice-Elect Todd has exhibited deep respect for and fidelity to the rule of law.

To do justice as a Justice on the Supreme Court, a member of this Court must possess impenetrable independence. That independence allows the individual jurists and the court collectively to uphold the civil rights and liberties of those in the minority who look to our constitution and the rule of law to protect and defend them.

Justice Debra Todd has devoted herself to protecting cherished individual rights during the entirety of her distinguished judicial career, a career that has championed those defining attributes that are central to the fabric of our legal profession and which represent our collective ideals and shared aspirations.

We are so very proud of the fact that she takes to heart the highest ideals of the organized bar and legal profession, ideals that the Pennsylvania Bar Association holds dear; including, importantly, a steadfast commitment to the integrity, stability and independence of our judges and justice system, a passion for excellence in the law, innovation for the

INSTALLATION

betterment of the legal profession, devotion to the rule of law and being a consistent guardian and protector of the rights of all citizens.

In furtherance of these ideals, she brings important assets that have made and will continue to make Her Honor a truly outstanding jurist. She brings an incredible work ethic, a positive energy and spirit, a work ethic brought home to her indeed by her father, a Steelworker from Ellwood City.

And I would just pause because my good friend Ken Gormley wanted to mention the Philadelphia connection. And I do practice law in Philadelphia. But your honor, we share something in common. My father was a Steelworker in Monessen, Pennsylvania, where he grew up.

Her work ethic, Her Honor's work ethic, which has guided her as she earned her way working through college and then law school, will be of great benefit to this Court.

She brings a fierce devotion to and respect for the rule of law and a passion in protecting the welfare of children, to whom she has given a lifetime of devotion and dedication, first as a mother and then as a judge on the Pennsylvania Superior Court.

We know that her family, of whom she is so very proud and who celebrate with her the oath of office she takes today, take great pride and share happy emotion in her successful career on such a grand and public display here today.

Lastly, Justice Todd brings her keen intellect and true scholarship to the court. Her work experience prior to ascending to the bench beginning in 1999 was that of a successful trial lawyer, where she tried many complex commercial litigations to verdict in the courts of Pennsylvania. That practical experience of the day-to-day functioning of our trial courts is another tremendous asset to the Supreme Court.

Quite simply, Justice Debra Todd is the best in what being a Justice of the Supreme Court is all about. We know that Her Honor will do all Pennsylvanians proud as she begins her service as a Justice on this high court.

Congratulations, Your Honor. And thank you all very much.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, President Susko.

We will now have remarks from Gerald Lawrence, Esquire. Mr. Lawrence.

MR. LAWRENCE: Mr. Chief Justice, members of the court, members of the judiciary that are here from around the state today, government elected officials and guests.

I'm truly honored to be here today and to give testimony about the abilities and the good character of my friend, Justice-Elect Todd.

Part of the special honor for me here today is that in September 1961, my grandfather, David Lawrence, spoke at the oath of office ceremony of Justice Ann Alpern, whom he had just appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Chief Justice Jones.

And although Justice Alpern was subsequently defeated in her efforts to win the then 21-year term, I'm very proud to have played a small role in helping Justice-Elect Todd to take that torch and to win a seat as the first Democratic woman elected to a seat on the Supreme Court.

Justice Todd is rightly celebrated here today. It's a testament to the strength of her character and the persistence of her abilities to overcome all the challenges required for a candidate to win this office.

I've been proud to work with the justice-elect as a director of the Finnegan Foundation, which creates opportunities for young people to have internships in Pennsylvania government. Justice Todd follows in the footsteps of one of her role models, Judge Genevieve Black, who is the founder of that organization.

I've also been proud to work with her on her various campaigns. Pennsylvania judicial campaigns are arduous affairs. They're long, they're difficult, they're low budget for the task at hand. In one way they are like the races you see in Iowa and New Hampshire because the candidate seems to be expected to personally ask every person in Pennsylvania to vote for them.

INSTALLATION

But the differences stop there. There are no chartered jets, there's no million-dollar budget, there's no army of staff. It's the candidate, oftentimes alone in her own car, crisscrossing the state, meeting the voters and seeing what the people of Pennsylvania want.

But long before our tour of picnics and chicken dinners, Judge Todd was well acquainted with the importance of hard work, the value of faith and the difference between right and wrong. Because for Justice-Elect Todd, that was much more than a slogan in her campaign commercial, it was a value system taught to her, as she said in that commercial, by her parents. And it's a value system by which she lives her life every single day.

Whether she was in a union hall in Chester City or a fancy house in Society Hill, Justice Todd's intellect, compassion and championing of justice continued to shine brightly.

Philadelphia's mayor Michael Nutter said a few weeks ago "We saw Debra so much in Philadelphia I thought she was going for the Court of Common Pleas."

Well, she did work hard. Beginning in February, we trudged along through the ice storms. The winds, probably the winds of change, blew ice and snow in our faces like sandpaper. I remember that she asked, "Why did I wear these high heels?"

(Laughter.)

MR. LAWRENCE: About a month later, on the eve of St. Patrick's Day, as we again slushed through another storm, she vowed, "After I win the primary, I'm going to wear flats." Well, as the summer came, she was back in Philadelphia, this time in flats.

And as summer turned to fall, Debra finally realized that she was liked in Philadelphia. The epiphany came and her confidence grew, and, I think, finally peaked when she was somewhat underwhelmed by the prospect of spending her 29th birthday in the Sheetmetal Workers Hall in Philadelphia with 600 of her closest friends.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE TODD: You can say 50, that's okay.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

MR. LAWRENCE: But her spirits were elevated because Alex and Steve had traveled across the state to be with her and because Congressman Brady had secured a cake for her complete with candles. When it was presented to her, she was serenaded by the entire City Committee of Philadelphia.

At that point I think she finally felt accepted in Philadelphia, and perhaps more importantly found that she wouldn't be cut there on election day, at least not too badly.

But really I think really the highlight of the campaign came for me one day in October. We were in a meeting with some supporters and the cell phone rang. And it wasn't the usual beep-beep-beep, but it was the catchy song that Alex had selected to let her know that somebody really important was calling.

And I knew our meeting was going to end soon. And as we traveled down in the elevator, the same catchy tune played and she answered the phone. And we stood there on the corner of 18th and Market Street in Philadelphia as the next Supreme Court justice, drawing on all of her experiences, drawing on the skills that she learned when she earned her doctorate in judicial process, putting into practice the intellectual ability and personal integrity that the Pennsylvania Bar Association cited her for to give her their highest recommendation, she peered into that cell phone to look at the photographic evidence to allow her to make the most important decision for her that day at that time.

And Alex told you about it before. She had to decide which were the right shoes for the dress.

(Laughter.)

MR. LAWRENCE: But I knew, I knew from that simple act that the compassion and the thought and the importance that she afforded to that decision and to her family, I knew that the slogan from the television commercial was right. And the slogan was, as you all remember, "It's about time". It's about time to elect a mother to serve on the Supreme Court. It's about time for this wife and mother to serve on Pennsylvania's Supreme Court.

Now, in this campaign I certainly did learn a lot about shoes. But I also learned, and it was further confirmed to me,

INSTALLATION

something that I knew all along, that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is going to be well served and a tremendous beneficiary of the virtue, the hard work and the values of Madame Justice-Elect Todd.

God bless you and God bless the Commonwealth.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Jerry Lawrence.

I will introduce the members of my court. I neglected to do that. I'm Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille. It's only my fourth day as Chief Justice, so bear with me.

To my left is Justice Michael Eakin. To my right is Justice Thomas Saylor. Beside him is Allegheny County's home justice, Max Baer. And the newest elected justice along with Justice Todd is Justice Seamus McCaffery.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: The Governor claps reluctantly.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: There are two new members of the Superior Court. I'd just like to introduce them, Cheryl Allen and Christine Donahue. Would you please stand.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Did I miss her? Jackie Shogun was just elected to the Superior Court also.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Chief Justice Ralph Cappy, former Chief Justice Ralph Cappy, sends his greetings to you, Debra. He's on an assignment from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States in Louisiana. He sends you his best.

We will now hear from the esteemed and the Honorable Justin M. Johnson, Judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. Judge Johnson.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

(Applause.)

JUDGE JOHNSON: Dr. Gleason and Chief Justice Castille and members of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

I'm delighted to be able to look up and see that three former members of the Superior Court will soon be joined by a fourth former member of the Superior Court on the Supreme Court.

I'm mindful of the distinct privilege that Justice-Elect Debra Todd has bestowed upon me in inviting me to participate in this celebration. I've come to know Debra and her family over the past eight years as she ran for, was elected to, and served with distinction on the Superior Court of Pennsylvania.

I have had the high satisfaction of serving on various panels with Debra Todd over the years. My service on that court for 26 years affords me the background from which I can rightfully assess the contribution that she has made to that court, and more importantly, the strengthening of the rule of law in this Commonwealth.

In responding to a questionnaire submitted by the Philadelphia Legal Intelligencer, Judge Todd had stated that an outstanding judge should possess the qualities of intellect, common sense, commitment, dedication, a strong sense of fairness, impartiality, self assurance, diligence, patience, even temperament, tenacity, integrity and courage.

Anyone who has observed Debra's demeanor in court or read her decisions quickly realizes that here is a jurist who practices what she preaches. Not one of those qualities is missing from Judge Todd's character.

Both the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Allegheny County Bar Association carefully vetted Judge Todd in terms of her qualifications to serve on our Supreme Court. Both found Debra to deserve their highest recommendation.

Judge Leon Higgenbotham placed emphasis on the need for an appellate judge to possess values consistent with the dispensation of justice if our nation is to prosper and succeed.

I submit that the values that Judge Todd brought to our Court, meaning the Superior Court, and will bring to your

INSTALLATION

Court are precisely those that will inevitably enhance both the Supreme Court's image and its jurisprudence.

Judge Todd recognizes that she is a product of her upbringing, her family, her church, her community, her education, and her experience both as a trial lawyer and an appellate judge.

It is because she takes pride in her Steelworker father and her full-time homemaker mom; because she is a first-generation college graduate who went on to earn Law Review status in law school; because she is one of only four judges in this Commonwealth to hold a Master of Laws degree in Judicial Process from the University of Virginia; and most importantly, because she puts her husband Steve and her teenage daughter Alex as the first priority in a life filled with service and contribution throughout the community.

It is for these reasons that the citizens of this Commonwealth are indeed blessed in now realizing the elevation of Debra Todd to the highest court in this state.

To the extent that recognition by one's peers constitutes a reliable means of judging a person's worth, I submit that Judge Debra Todd, through her journey along the winding path of the law these many years, has earned our gratitude, our respect, and our devotion for holding high the banner of equal justice under law.

The peace of the Lord be with you, Debra.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Judge Johnson.

We will now hear remarks from your former boss and former colleague, President Judge of the Superior Court, Kate Ford Elliott.

President JUDGE Ford ELLIOTT: Thank you very much, Chief Justice, and may it please you and all the honorable members of your Court.

I know I'm here today to officially represent the Superior Court in offering our heartfelt best wishes to our colleague, Judge Todd, as she ascends to your honorable Court.

It is a melancholy time for us because, on the one hand, we are enormously proud of Judge Todd and what she has

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

accomplished. But on the other hand, we know that we will miss her wisdom, her counsel and also her laughter among all of us.

It is noteworthy that she is joining former colleagues Justice Tom Saylor, Justice Michael Eakin, and your newest member and our friend and colleague, Justice Seamus McCaffery, on this bench. We are always very pleased when members of the Superior Court make it to the Supreme Court because it tends to improve our reversal rate.

(Laughter.)

President JUDGE Ford ELLIOTT: But on a much more personal note, it is my great pleasure to be here today to celebrate with a dear friend the realization of a dream.

Debra, having known you for ten years and working with you on the Court, I know you are a great Judge and I know you will be a great Justice. In your eight years with the Superior Court, you have participated in deciding almost 5500 appeals. That is a huge volume of work for an appellate judge. And on careful reading, it represents an outstanding example of legal scholarship.

But on even closer examination, your judicial decisions also show that in making very important decisions about other people's lives, you use both your head and your heart. That is something which will greatly benefit the citizens of Pennsylvania with your service on our highest court.

However, even more than the wisdom you displayed on the bench, it is your ability to keep all the balls in the air at the same time and never lose sight of which ones are made of glass which has made you such a wonderful role model for so many of us.

As we have watched Alex grow up and become the sophisticated and beautiful young woman she is today, and hearing her speak so lovingly and eloquently about her mother, it shows that you do many things very well, Debra.

Whether it's making very difficult and wise decisions as a judge or surmounting the obstacles and the hardships of the campaign trail or fulfilling the most important role of wife and mother, you do it all with commitment, courage and class.

INSTALLATION

Madame Justice, your colleagues on the Superior Court will miss you very much. And we are very proud of you today.

And to reiterate what I said to a dear, dear friend at her installation to the Superior Court in 1999, my fervent wish is that your time on this new bench will continue to bring you the respect, the recognition and the personal satisfaction that you so richly deserve.

Thank you very much, Debra.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, President Judge Ford Elliott.

We'll now hear from an esteemed former member of our Court and former leader of our Court, former Chief Justice, Chief Justice Emeritus, well known to everyone here, Stephen A. Zappala.

(Applause.)

Chief JUSTICE ZAPPALA: Mr. Chief Justice.

I'd like to first take this opportunity of congratulating Ron Castille. I had the unique honor and pleasure of seeing Ron come to the bench in I think 1992, probably during one of the greatest turmoils that the Supreme Court had. I saw Ron then venture through the stewardship of Bob Nix, John Flaherty, Ralph Cappy.

With that background, Mr. Chief Justice, you will be a success. And I congratulate you.

(Applause.)

Chief JUSTICE ZAPPALA: Secondly, I'd like to note with great interest that not only bringing Debbie Todd and Seamus McCaffery to this bench, that we heard the voice of the Commonwealth that retained, and it was really a difficult retention election, one of our true and finer Justices, Tom Saylor.

Congratulations, Tom.

(Applause.)

Chief JUSTICE ZAPPALA: Last but not least, to Seamus McCaffery. He will bring to this bench, I think, the sense of

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

what the common man knows of what the judicial process is all about.

He distinguished himself in the Municipal Court, did a yeoman's job in Superior Court. He carries that bucket that he has, that workmanship. He'll do a hell of a job on the Supreme Court.

Good luck to you.

(Applause.)

Chief JUSTICE ZAPPALA: As another side comment, as I came up, the County Executive said to me, he said, Steve, hurry up, hurry up, he said. By the time this program's done, Steve's going to have to raise more money for retention because Debbie's going to be looking for retention before she's sworn in.

(Laughter.)

Chief JUSTICE ZAPPALA: Mr. Chief Justice, members of the bench, distinguished members of the judiciary, executive branch of government, legislative branch, distinguished Governor of Pennsylvania, distinguished Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania.

It was on January the 7th of the year 2000 that Debra Todd was sworn in at that time as a judge of Superior Court. It was my distinct pleasure to administer the oath of office.

And at that time the Superior Court was controlled by a judge by the name of Steve McEwen. And you had to know him to love him. Probably one of the finest judges we have had in this Commonwealth.

Well, President Judge McEwen welcomed then Judge-Elect Todd to the Superior Court. And he spoke in so glowing terms of the challenges that she would face during the transition from being a member of the bar to a member of the bench.

In the company of her family and her friends, then Elect-Judge Todd was lauded by many for her accomplishments as an attorney. The speakers observed that Debbie Todd was highly skilled and she was able to reach to the diverse groups of whatever may occur.

At that time also, Judge Kate Ford Elliott spoke of the commitment and courage which was demonstrated by Debbie not only as a campaigner but throughout her life.

INSTALLATION

Also at that time, Judge Donetta Ambrose, at that time Judge of the Western District Court of the United States, described Debbie as one who is skilled and one who is a stellar advocate.

Seven years now have gone by. Those distinguished speakers described the qualities of proved importance for the people of this Commonwealth. Their words have not gone unheard. Indeed, they have come to fruition. Debra Todd has achieved the goals that she had set out to achieve.

More importantly, the voters of this Commonwealth have recognized her achievements and elevated her to the position today as a Justice-Elect. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, as indicated by many of the speakers today has a long, history dating back to 1722, 286 years.

We have, however, witnessed a significant and exciting change to the appellate judiciary. Kate Ford Elliott now presides as the President Judge of Superior Court.

Bonnie Leadbetter now presides as the President Judge of the Commonwealth Court.

And Donetta Ambrose presides as the Chief Judge of the District Court of Western Pennsylvania.

In Pennsylvania, women now hold, very few see this, the majority of our judicial offices of both appellate courts.

(Applause.)

Chief JUSTICE ZAPPALA: This transition has occurred perhaps in a very quiet reception that has followed other thoughts that we are not here surprised that women have reached that height.

But do not let the extraordinary change go unnoticed. Let it be known that in the year 2008, the Pennsylvania judiciary unwittingly will have ushered in an era of unlimited possibilities. As for Justice-Elect Debbie Todd, history is only the beginning to what will as I see unfold.

The installation of Justice Todd on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court is a remarkable accomplishment. And as indicated by the Chief Justice, only two elected women have held that post in 285 years.

Yet Debbie Todd, Justice Todd, stands poised to take the unprecedented place in history, due to her age, and now

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

seniority, Justice-Elect Todd now becomes eligible, God forbid anything change in the Constitution, to become the first woman Chief Justice of Pennsylvania.

With every title, however, there comes a responsibility. As a justice of the Supreme Court, you are now responsible not only for the decisions that you have rendered, but also for the administration of a unified judicial system. You are responsible for the legal professionalism, and you are responsible more so for the integrity and reputation of the courts.

Very few are aware of both the power and the prestige of the Supreme Court of this state.

The Supreme Court is, as indicated, an equal branch of government. And with that responsibility to oversee every judicial officer and member of the bar, the Supreme Court has an even greater responsibility, and that is to its residents of this Commonwealth.

The actions of the Supreme Court, as noted by the Chief Justice also, impact immediately upon the lives of all Pennsylvanians. It impacts upon the decisions as between the equal branches of government.

It impacts upon the interpretation of our constitution. It impacts upon conflicts involving capital punishment, families, divorce, abortions, whatever. It impacts upon the environmental issues. All will leave a permanent mark upon its residents.

Respect for the Supreme Court, however, and the judiciary, is generally not given upon the donning of the robes. Respect, I may say, is something which is earned by the integrity of the individual Judges or Justices. There must be a full realization of the awesome responsibility undertaken by the justices and by the people whom they represent.

Those of us who have had the honor to serve on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, and those of us who have borne the unique responsibilities that weigh heavily upon a Chief Justice, have left our footprints for better or for worse over the past centuries.

Justice Todd, you need not follow in anyone's path. You have the talent, you have the strength, and you have the integrity to find your own way. You will be, as we will note,

INSTALLATION

the voice for a future generation. The citizens of this Commonwealth deserve the best. And I might say we expect nothing less.

Madame Justice Todd, this is your time to lead. May you come to know the challenges of the justices and the challenge of the Chief Justice of Pennsylvania. And God willing, may we all be here to witness that undertaking.

In closing, let me say that the future is yours. But history will be ours to judge. God bless you and good luck to you.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Chief Justice.

We'll now hear from another person who needs no introduction, the Lieutenant Governor of the great state of Pennsylvania, the Honorable Catherine Baker Knoll.

(Applause.)

LT. GOVERNOR KNOLL: To Governor Rendell and to Chief Justice Castille, our former Chief Justice Zapalla and all of our distinguished members of the Supreme Court, Superior Court, Commonwealth Court, and all of the Common Pleas courts from across this Commonwealth.

I probably have traveled this state more than anyone. And as I just said to the Governor, I started, actually I started with John Kennedy in 1960. So it goes back a long time, doesn't it?

And the Todd family, with all of you, you know, we've traveled this whole last year. I can remember with Superior Court, because Steve would stay home and Alex would sing to me in the car because I'd get so tired, you know. This is a big state.

(Laughter.)

LT. GOVERNOR KNOLL: Kate Ford, I mean, all of these judges, haven't we been blessed? It sounds real easy to put in these women judges. It's a lot of work, you know.

To all of our wonderful guests here, our elected officials and guests and friends, thank you. Thank you all for all the work you've done to bring in Debra. That's really exciting for

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

me. I've been her chairman so many times, sometimes I've wondered where we're going. We're not going anywhere from here, are we?

JUSTICE TODD: This is it.

LT. GOVERNOR KNOLL: This is it.

(Laughter.)

LT. GOVERNOR KNOLL: There are those who said that with this swearing-in to the highest court of the Commonwealth, Debra Todd has reached the highest point of her remarkable career. This moment is her gold medal, her top-of-the-world achievement.

I don't agree, because I think with Debra Todd the best is yet to be. You can count on that. With her sense of justice, she will influence and continue to influence the sense of fairness for the future of Pennsylvania.

With her respect for the law, she will provide testimony to the moral conduct of the 12 million people of this Commonwealth. With her commitment to conscience, she will be a shining example of truth in action.

The citizens of Pennsylvania know that those who serve on the Supreme Court must have knowledge and integrity. Integrity without knowledge is weakness. Knowledge without integrity is dangerous.

Put them together, knowledge and integrity, and you have Justice Debra Todd, you have excellence. And with this swearing-in, she has history's wind to her back.

The price of justice is eternal vigilance. And today, Pennsylvania has made a precious down payment on all those tomorrows. So God bless — I'm going to leave her a proclamation. God bless you, kid, we've gone through it all.

The quote I use is from James Fisher, who said, "Leadership is a special quality which enables people to stand up and pull the rest of us over the horizon."

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Lieutenant Governor Knoll.

INSTALLATION

We're now going to hear from another person that needs no introduction. We're going to hear from Governor Ed Rendell of the great state of Pennsylvania.

But I must warn you, Alexandra set the bar pretty high.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We've had some pretty good speeches so far. It's your last chance to beat her.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Governor Rendell.

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: Well, good morning everyone.

You must be petrified. If you've been reading your program, you noticed that there have been welcomes by our great County Chief Executive Dan Onorato and there have been remarks by various speakers. But if you noticed, down by my name it says address.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: Now, it's 11:33. We've been sitting here for an hour and a half. Seems to me it's a little cold in here. You've heard a lot of remarks and some welcomes and now you're about to hear an address.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: But as the former mayor of Philadelphia would say, John Street used to say, that I promise to be brief no matter how long it takes.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: Let me begin by, if it please the Court, taking the opportunity, as Chief Justice Castille did, to recognize the great work of former, which is former by a few days, former Justices Cynthia Baldwin and James Fitzgerald.

I had the honor of appointing them to the Supreme Court. I believe that they were people of the highest intellect and character and that they would do a phenomenal job. And I think they did. But more importantly, so do the people of the Commonwealth.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

So Cynthia and Jim, we very much appreciate the service that you've rendered.

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: Secondly, I want to congratulate my former employee, Chief Justice Castille. I was his boss for a while. Although truth be told, you're never Ron Castille's boss. But I congratulate him on becoming Chief Justice of this storied court.

Ron Castille has a great legal mind and has the ability to sift through things and get to the focus, to the gravamen of the issue as well as anybody I have ever seen. He'll be a good leader. He'll be a good administrator and he'll continue his career of judicial excellence. We're very glad to have him.

And I know we always talk about the executive and the judicial and the legislative as co-equal branches. And the Chief Justice, in his rendering of the history of the court, noted that they didn't have a police force or an army and they didn't have the power to legislate.

But we were having a discussion on that about some potential sites for a judicial building in the County of Philadelphia. And I kept suggesting sites and the Chief Justice kept saying no. And it occurred to me somewhere along the line that it's not necessarily truly a co-equal branch of government.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: Lastly, before I talk about Justice Todd, let me congratulate also newly elected Justice Seamus McCaffery.

Seamus is a unique individual. You all know his background. And his background captivated voters, not just in the home area of Southeast Pennsylvania but throughout the Commonwealth. A policeman who went to law school, an officer who works. Someone who's done a great job in every capacity that he served in, not only as a policeman, but as a lawyer.

But in his judicial capacities, he was a great administrative judge of Municipal Court, a solid and terrific Superior Court judge.

INSTALLATION

He's best known back home in the Philadelphia area for a collaboration that he and I undertook when we were faced with the bold realization, and cold realization, that some of our Philadelphia Eagle football fans had a tendency to be rowdy, obstreperous and inebriated.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: This had become — and to let you know, unlike Pittsburgh Steeler fans, who are genteel, law-abiding and teetotaling.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: We set up a police court in Veterans Stadium and Judge McCaffery volunteered to serve, lead and shape that court. And literally, people who acted up in the stands, instead of being taken by the police to the district and maybe seen at some point or given a summons, they went for trial right in Veterans Stadium in a room that Judge McCaffery presided over.

And it worked very, very well. I mean it solved a lot of the problems we were having.

I'll never forget hearing a report that the first case that was brought before Judge McCaffery in this makeshift courtroom, the offender was brought in and Judge McCaffery said do you know where you are? And he nodded.

He said how do you plead? And he was about to say not guilty, when he threw up all over the courtroom.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: Based on that historic beginning, I knew we were in for a great success. And it actually did work very, very well. And the judge, as he does in every capacity, did a great job there.

So Mr. Justice McCaffery, my personal congratulations. It's great to see you up there with the other justices.

(Applause.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: Now, the problem with being near the end of the list of speakers is almost all of the good things have been said about Debra Todd.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

And Debra, you have probably had the unique experience of sitting through what could be your own funeral with all of these great eulogies.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR RENDELL: And I want to add my good words to all of what's been said, but I don't want to be repetitive.

People are asking me, because this is my 31st year in elective office, people are always asking me, particularly back home, how do you decide who to vote for? What do you look for in a candidate?

And this is true I think for candidates for any office, whether it be mayor, governor, counselman, congressman or county executive or judicial candidates.

And my reply is always the same. And interestingly, it was what Chief Judge Kate Ford Elliott said in her remarks. I tell people look for someone with a good head and a good heart. Because almost all of these positions, particularly a justice in the Supreme Court, requires a good head, a good mind, someone smart enough to grasp the complex challenges that will be put before him or her.

And there's no question that, looking at Debra Todd's career and reading her opinions, that she has that keen, quick, grasping mind that will allow her to deal with any challenge no matter how complicated, no matter how difficult it is, and understand it and dispense the right answers.

So I think, in that category, the people of Pennsylvania have chosen well.

The second category is, as Judge Elliott said, is a great heart. A great heart. Because it is important, regardless of what position an elected official holds, it's important that they never forget that we're here to serve the individual, that we're here to try to shape government and justice so that the product we produce benefits individuals, lifts the quality of their lives, gives them the opportunities they so richly deserve.

It's very difficult to do. It sounds easy, but there are a lot of words and it sounds so simple to achieve that. It isn't.

INSTALLATION

There's so many different pressures, so many different interests you have to balance, whether it's the job of a Governor or a Mayor or a Justice.

And it's important to have the type of heart that leads you to always care about what the outcome is, what's it going to mean for people, what's it going to mean for the ordinary man or woman on the street. How is what I am doing today going to affect them and their families and their future.

Debra Todd has that great heart. You just have to campaign with her. And I didn't campaign with her nearly as much as Lieutenant Governor Knoll did, but we appeared a lot together in the last year. And you can see her high regard for every individual. No question was too trivial for her to answer. She takes time with people. She works with them. She has a great touch and a great understanding and a wonderful temperament for dealing with the problems that beset all of us in our society today.

And secondly, I define having a good heart, and Justice Castille said this in his remarks, having a good heart is having also the courage to do your job faithfully and well and to render decisions, again, whether it's a Governor or a County Executive or a Justice, to render decisions that sometimes are going to be unpopular that you know are right.

And that tends to fall, that responsibility, I would submit to all of you, is not being carried out very well by elected officials. It is not being carried out. Too many of our elected officials are absolutely petrified of doing anything that's unpopular. They don't want to go against the wind. They don't want to go against the grain. They don't want to risk the next election. And I believe our country and our state have suffered because of that on many, many occasions.

Too few are willing to say this is what we need to do. It may not be popular. It may not be popular today, but in the long run it's going to benefit America. It's going to make this country a better place.

Justices, judges, have that responsibility quite often. They may be dealing with the most heinous crime in the world, a crime that makes you read about it and just makes you shake your head that a human being could do that. But

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

if the system failed, and if justice wasn't done in that case, we would have to make that unpopular decision, not necessarily to benefit that defendant, but a defendant that somebody down the line who might be innocent and going through the courts.

But it's tough to do. The pressure is enormous. And you have to have a good, strong heart. And for those of you who know Debra Todd well, and that's everyone in this room, you know that she has the kind of gentle and sensitive heart and she has a strong and courageous heart. So the people of Pennsylvania have chosen well and it's a great day for them.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Governor.

Alexandra, it's a tie between you and the Governor.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: And Judge Johnson.

The reference the Governor makes to me being his employee should say former employee. We were both hired in the District Attorney's office in Philadelphia by the same boss at that time, U. S. Senator Arlen Specter.

So Governor Rendell and I have been friends. I was his deputy district attorney when he was district attorney in Philadelphia. And I was chief of the Career Criminal Unit when Ed was the District Attorney in Philadelphia. So we go back a long ways.

Thank you, Mr. Governor.

We will now have the reading of the Commission. We're getting close to the end, folks. The reading of the Commission.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Rhonda Campbell, will you please step forward.

Ms. CAMPBELL: With pleasure, I read your Commission.

To the Honorable Debra Todd, Greetings.

INSTALLATION

Whereas, it appears by the certificates and returns made according to law of the election held on the 6th day of November Anno Domini 2007, that you have been duly elected Justice of the Supreme Court in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Therefore, know ye that in conformity to the provisions of the Constitution and laws of the said Commonwealth, in such case made and provided, I do by these presents commission you to be a Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, first priority of commission, to have and to hold the said office, together with all the rights, powers and emoluments thereunto belonging, or by law in anywise appertaining, for the term of ten years, to be computed from the first Monday of January 2008, if you shall so long behave yourself well.

(Laughter.)

MS. CAMPBELL: Given under my hand and the great seal of the state at the City of Harrisburg, this 19th day of December in the year of our Lord 2007 and of the Commonwealth the 232nd.

Signed, Edward J Rendell, Governor.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Now is the moment that we will administer the oath of office to Debra Todd. Holding the family Bible, are your husband Steve and Alex.

The robing will be performed by Mary and Bruce Johnston and Nancy and James Woods.

Madame Justice, would you please step forward.

JUSTICE TODD: I'd be delighted.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Place your left hand upon the Bible, raise your right hand and repeat after me:

I, Debra Todd.

JUSTICE TODD: I, Debra Todd.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Do solemnly swear.

JUSTICE TODD: Do solemnly swear.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: That I will support, obey and defend.

JUSTICE TODD: That I will support, obey and defend.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: The Constitution of the United States of America.

JUSTICE TODD: The Constitution of the United States of America.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUSTICE TODD: The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: And the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUSTICE TODD: And the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: And will discharge the duties of my office.

JUSTICE TODD: And will discharge the duties of my office.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: As a member of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

JUSTICE TODD: As a member of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: With fidelity.

JUSTICE TODD: With fidelity.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: So help me God.

JUSTICE TODD: So help me God.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Congratulations.

(Applause.)

(Judicial Robing.)

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Madame Justice Todd, we welcome you.

INSTALLATION

JUSTICE TODD: Thank you, Chief.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Speak now and you may be heard.

JUSTICE TODD: Thank you so much, Chief Justice Castille, and all of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

I'm delighted to be here among you, and I think this Court needed a blonde.

(Laughter and applause.)

JUSTICE TODD: My word today is thanks. I want to thank everyone so sincerely from the bottom of my heart.

And despite the fact that I have a rather long speech prepared, I believe I can probably convey my message of gratitude best by being extremely brief and allowing you to get on to the reception. So let me just say a few words, if I may.

First of all, Governor Rendell, thank you from the bottom of my heart. I've never seen you sit at one event so long in my life.

(Laughter and applause.)

JUSTICE TODD: And I take that as a great compliment. Thank you very much.

And rather than referring to it as it could be my funeral, perhaps we could say it could be my Bat Mitzvah, something a little more festive.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE TODD: I want to thank all of our speakers here today. Pastor Gleason, who is a constant source of inspiration for me and for my family, thank you for being here.

Dan Onorato, my honorary chairman and Chief Executive, thank you.

And Governor Rendell, again, thank you for being here and for speaking.

Ken Gormley, ACBA President. I'm proud to be a member of the ACBA, a longtime member. And it feels good to be

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

here in Allegheny County and to have the president of the bar address this group. Thank you.

Andy Susko, President of the Pennsylvania Bar, I appreciate your presence and your comments as well. I'm a longtime member of the PBA and I've always enjoyed my association with that group, which will undoubtedly continue.

Jerry Lawrence, my dear friend from Philadelphia, not my only friend from Philadelphia, one of my many, but certainly a dear friend; and also, as you heard from Jerry's speech, the grandson of our very famous late mayor and late governor, David Lawrence.

And I think it's an interesting twist of history when I look back at the close relationship that Governor Lawrence had with Ann Alpern and with Genevieve Blatt, to know that his grandson Jerry and I have become such close friends.

And Jerry, I appreciate your comments and all of your help as well.

Judge Justin Johnson, my mentor, thank you for being here. Thank you for your guidance, always, and for speaking today.

President Judge Kate Ford Elliott, who knows a thing or two about glass ceilings and breaking barriers, thank you for your historic service on the Pennsylvania Superior Court as our President Judge. And thank you for being here today and for your kind comments.

Chief Justice Emeritus Zappala, thank you. I've always looked up to you. I have always valued your guidance. And I certainly appreciate your sharing your time and comments with us today.

Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll, my dear friend, thank you. We have been on many frozen Pennsylvania Turnpike miles together, and, thank God we had a happy ending. So thank you for everything you've done for me and for my family and thank you for speaking today.

The Seneca Valley award-winning Concert Choir had to leave because, with the exception of one of their first sopranos, Alexandra Todd, they had to return to school. But I hope that they know how much I appreciated their singing.

INSTALLATION

Truly, the music was the part of the program that I was looking forward to the most. I love music. We have a lot of music in our household. My daughter is a fabulous singer. And it was a real pleasure for me to have the Seneca Valley Choir here to sing. And I would like to extend my thanks to Aaron Magill and the chorus for appearing today.

Cynthia Pock and Andre Bierman are here, and you will be hearing from Andre at the close of the ceremony. I'd like to thank them as well.

The children who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and some of you may have recognized them, they are the children from my TV commercial. And they are making an encore performance here today for the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE TODD: So Lexxus, Christopher, Brian, Rebecca, Sydney and Desirae, thank you for a beautiful job.

I would also like to thank our Court Crier, Brian Minner. I'm just getting to know him and, as well as all the other folks at the Supreme Court, and I'm looking forward to working with all of you.

I'd like to thank all of the elected officials who appeared. Their names I believe were mostly read earlier. I won't go over them again except to say, Luke Ravenstahl, Mayor of Pittsburgh, thank you so much for taking the time. I wish you all the best. I know that you have a difficult job ahead of you as mayor of the City of Pittsburgh. We all have great, great faith in you and hope for you and for our city.

And I would also like to extend the same wishes to Mayor Michael Nutter of Philadelphia, who I'm proud to say has also become a friend. And I know that he has a big job ahead of him, and I certainly wish him all the best in the future as well.

Let me take a few moments to say a word or two about the members of the judiciary that are here today. There are some Allegheny County Common Pleas judges still here, aren't there? They're over there.

These are my homeboys, so to speak.

(Laughter.)

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

JUSTICE TODD: And I'm just so happy that they're here. So many of the judges on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas have been my friends and colleagues for probably over 25 years, and particularly those who served with me on the Allegheny County Bar Association Players tour.

We sang and danced together for many years. And Kim Berkeley Clark and Jeff Manning and perhaps others are here from that group. And we go back a long way and we've certainly had a lot of good times. So thank you. It was really a pleasure and my honor to see all of you here today.

To my colleagues on the Superior Court, I don't know how to thank you for all your camaraderie over the past eight years. I have to tell you that one of the most difficult parts of deciding to run for the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania was the knowledge that I might be leaving my colleagues on the Superior Court.

You couldn't find a harder-working, better, more industrious, intelligent, civic-minded group than the Superior Court. And I have learned from each of them. I've enjoyed serving with each of them, and I'm going to miss you as colleagues.

But I have many dear friends on that court and I look forward to continuing those friendships. So thank you for being here today.

I believe we have Judge Hannah Leavitt from the Commonwealth Court, and I thank you for coming as well.

We have had a number of wonderful President Judges in our Superior Court. And you heard from President Judge Kate Ford Elliott. Prior to that, Judge Joe Del Sole was our President Judge. Some of us now on the Supreme Court served under President Judge Del Sole, and he certainly taught all of us a lesson about camaraderie and we appreciated his leadership.

So I wanted to extend a personal thank-you to him, and to President Judge Emeritus Steve McEwen, who could not be here today. He's with his grandchildren in Florida I believe. But I wanted to say a few words about him.

Steve McEwen is in my mind everything a judge should be. He is scholarly, independent, collegial and courageous.

INSTALLATION

And I thank him for his leadership. He was the President Judge of the Superior Court when I was sworn in as a judge. And I will always treasure his friendship as well.

There are many other judges here I know that I haven't mentioned by name. But I know there are some former judges, some retired judges, Judge Brosky, Judge Rob Byer, who's not retired but a former judge now in practice.

And I want to extend my thanks to the judges and former judges, Justice Fitzgerald, Justice Baldwin, and all of those who took the time to come today. I really do appreciate it.

There is also a judge from Connecticut here who was a classmate of mine at the University of Virginia, Judge John Blue and his wife Jean. They traveled all the way from Connecticut to be here, so I wanted to acknowledge them and thank them.

I also want to acknowledge Pastor Ron Brown and Monsignor Ed Burns, who came in from Washington, D.C. to be with us today, and I certainly do appreciate that.

Monsignor Burns has become a very well-respected pillar of the Catholic Church, but he was really my buddy in high school in Ellwood City. He was my classmate, and I'm so happy for his success.

There are so many individuals I would like to thank. And I hope to have the opportunity to speak with each of you personally at the reception. Please know that you each have my gratitude, my sincere appreciation for helping me, for supporting me and for taking the time to be here today.

I know there are a number of labor leaders in attendance. And believe me, I recognize I could not have won this election without your support.

Bill George is a dear friend. And as some of you may know, his wife passed away this week. So they're in fact at a memorial service today. I wanted to extend my sympathies to the George family.

Rick Bloomingdale, also from the AFL-CIO, I believe is with Bill today during this difficult time, as are Jack Shea and John Vento, and my friends at the Allegheny County Labor Council, as well as many of my friends from the other labor councils.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

But to those of you who could be here today, Jack Brooks, many of you throughout the state from so many different labor organizations, as the daughter of a Steelworker, there's really — there's nothing that means more to me than having the support of the labor leaders and the working families of Pennsylvania.

So thank you, each of you, for your support.

It would be literally impossible to conduct a successful statewide judicial campaign without the support of members of the bar from throughout the state. So I would like to acknowledge my appreciation for the significant help and support that I received from attorneys throughout the state, corporate and defense counsel, plaintiffs' trial bar, prosecutors, criminal defense attorneys, every variety of attorney who helped me; and in particular the trial lawyers in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania trial lawyers. I couldn't have done it without the support from all of these members of the bar.

To the members of the Pennsylvania Democratic State Committee, the caucus chairs, the county chairs, and all of the hardworking committee people who helped me throughout the state in all 67 counties, I thank you for your endorsement and for your steadfast support from the time I ran for Superior Court to this present time. And believe me, I have appreciated it every step of the way.

To the Federation of Democratic Women, President Susan Rudd and prior president Michele Bortner, I really want to extend my appreciation because, as you all know, I could not have done it without you. And Democratic women in Pennsylvania really took this as a mission to help me to get elected to the Supreme Court, and I'm very, very grateful for that help.

Obviously I had tremendous support from friends in the Democratic party, the Republican party and independents as well, and I want you all to know that I appreciate the help and I'm so thankful to have been elected a justice of the Supreme Court.

I'd like to introduce my campaign staff because I know that I wouldn't be here without them. My treasurer, Steve Todd, my husband, who I will speak of later; my chairman

INSTALLATION

Zane Smigas; my honorary chairs Catherine Baker Knoll and Dan Onorato; and my trusted adviser Ken Smukler. I could not have done it without all of you.

And in the event any of you liked my TV commercials, please thank Ken Smukler.

I'd would like to thank my campaign coordinator, Rhonda Campbell. Rhonda has been by my side for over twenty years, and without her tremendous effort, talent and perseverance, this day would not have been possible.

I would also like to thank my campaign manager Alison Hall; and my campaign staff, Christy Boyle, Carla Campbell, Alysa Rudolph and Kristen Stoner, and our intern from the University of Pittsburgh, Whitney Pritchard. All of you worked so hard. And also my dear friend and adviser Jean Milko, thank you.

Thank you all.

My new chambers staff, some of whom are already with us and some will be coming on later in the year. I just wanted to mention them. My Chief Law Clerk Sean Winters, my Deputy Chief Law Clerks Kimberly Collins and Jeff Bauman; and attorneys, law clerks, Lynn Snyderman, Liz Rabenold, Arthur Trauldi, Josh Sieber, Dan DeLissio; my Chief Administrative Judicial Assistant, who has now left the world of campaigns and returned to the world of the courts, Rhonda Campbell; and my judicial secretaries Britt Felton and Theresa Traini.

So, thank you all for everything you've done to help me with the campaign; and with respect to the chambers staff, to help us launch the Supreme Court chambers. It really means a great deal and I couldn't do it without all of you.

I have so many dear friends here today. And without mentioning each of you by name, I hope that you all recognize that you have my thanks, you have my gratitude, and I will look forward to speaking with each of you individually.

Any of you who know me know that I've been blessed with the most wonderful of families. My parents, Harry and Blanche McCloskey, are no longer with us. But I believe they are looking down and relishing every moment of this.

My dad worked so hard all those years in the steel mill. And I hope that somehow he knows that his work molded me

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

and cast my success. My mother was my inspiration. And she's always with me. I can still hear her words of love and encouragement even in my most quiet moments.

My sisters. What can I say about my wonderful sisters? If you know me, you know my sisters, Mary Johnston and Nancy Woods. They are always with me, cheering me on and catching me if I fall.

Mary and Nancy, I thank you and I love you. My brothers-in-law are more like big brothers to me, Bruce Johnston and Jim Woods. I thank you and I love you.

My nephew Jim is also here, and I appreciate that. He did my website, so he's not only a family member, he is a real contributor to the campaign. Thank you so much.

My sister and brother-in-law Mary, and Bruce, who ran my Central Pennsylvania campaign. And I know that many of you got to know them at events all over the state.

And my sister Nancy and her husband Jim Woods are from Beaver County, and I know that many of you got to see them at campaign events as well.

My mother-in-law, Juanita Todd is here. And I appreciate that. You are a wonderful, wonderful mother-in-law. And I'm so thankful to have you. And thank you for raising such a fine son. Steve's a wonderful husband and a wonderful man, and I give you many thanks and tribute for that.

My stepdaughter, Whitney Todd Hoffman, who is now an attorney in Cleveland at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, I can't tell you how proud we are of you, Whitney, particularly for all those years when you said I don't want to be an attorney. And here you are.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE TODD: And it was in your blood, and, you just, you couldn't fight it any longer. So I'm so happy that you have become the attorney we always knew you would be. So thank you for being here.

And my beautiful grandchildren, Dana and Rebecca, thank you both for being here and for helping on the campaign trail and for all of your love and support. I'm very proud of both of you.

INSTALLATION

My stepson Jason is a professor in Louisiana, and he couldn't be here today because, having recently earned his Ph.D., he just began teaching. And this was the first day on the job for the school year, so he couldn't be here. But he was with us last week and we certainly are very proud of him as well.

Finally, my dearest friends who are seated with my family, Jean Milko, the Lerachs, Dick and Judi, Bill McKim, Dave High. I have so many wonderful, wonderful friends and I wish I could mention every single one here. But I do appreciate all the love and support, and I promise you, I won't put you through any more campaigns.

Finally, my husband and my daughter. I think all of you over the campaign year have gotten to know my husband and daughter if you didn't know them already.

But Alex, you did a beautiful job today both in the choir and at the podium. There could be 75 students singing or 750, and I would always hear your voice. So thank you for doing that. And I loved your kind words, Sweetheart. And I'm so proud of you.

Many of you may think that the Supreme Court campaign was the big event in the Todd household this past year, but in fact it would be wrong. The big event was Alexandra's 16th birthday. So that was really a big focus of our household.

Alex, I hope that you know, no matter how much joy I may experience in my judicial career, it pales in comparison to the pride and joy I take every day in being your mother. You're the light of my life. I love you.

(Applause.)

JUSTICE TODD: Stephan, sometimes I think that you know me better than I know myself. You encourage me to do the impossible. You support me when I take on the improbable. And you believe in me no matter what. I thank God for you. And I thank you and I love you. Thank you, Steve.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Stand up. Family members, stand up.

JUSTICE TODD: Oh, that would be wonderful. I'd appreciate it if my family could stand up.

(Applause.)

JUSTICE TODD: My husband's Aunt Lucille is here from Evansville, Indiana too. Thank you, Aunt Lu, for attending.

Being mindful of the substantial risks of showing emotion in a public setting —

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE TODD: — I'm trying very hard not to cry. I will not cry. But I would like to close with some words of wisdom from four American icons, Bette Midler, Sister Sledge, Blanche DuBois and Oliver Wendell Holmes.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE TODD: First of all, in the words of Bette Midler, "You've got to have friends."

Boy, do I have friends. And I couldn't have done this without all of you. So thank you and God bless my friends. Thank you so much.

Second, as sung by Sister Sledge, "We are family. I got all my sisters with me."

I have my two sisters with me, but I have sisters all over the Commonwealth and my colleagues on the Court, the women of the Democratic Federation, and all the women all over the state who really stepped up to take an interest in this campaign, I thank you. I thank all of the men and women of Pennsylvania for their help.

Third, in the unforgettable words, to me anyway, of Blanche DuBois in Tennessee Williams' famous play *Streetcar Named Desire*, "I have always depended on the kindness of strangers."

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE TODD: There are so many people that I have never met who have helped me with this campaign. And believe me, I recognize that. And I recognize that people have an interest in a strong judiciary, an independent judiciary, and in electing the best possible men and women to serve our Commonwealth on the bench. And most of those people we never get to meet.

INSTALLATION

But they've all made a contribution by being involved in the process, by voting and by caring about our courts and the quality of justice. So I realize that I owe all of them a debt of gratitude.

And finally, the advice of Oliver Wendell Holmes, "Have faith, and pursue the unknown end."

My faith sustains me. And I accept this awesome responsibility with enthusiasm, with confidence and with humility.

Thank you and may God bless us all.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Justice Todd.

I do have to take umbrage at one remark. There are a lot of blondes on this Court.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: And the Justice on the end, we don't know what he is.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We would just have brief welcoming remarks from the members of the Supreme Court.

Justice McCaffery, you're first.

JUSTICE McCAFFERY: Debra, what a difference a decade makes. We started out together in 1997. We both lost. Here we are in 2007, we both won. There was a point in time especially toward the end where we could give each other's speeches, we just knew so much about each other.

I can't express to you my fondness, my appreciation, my true admiration for you both in Superior Court and our campaign and your campaign.

You already mentioned your family, but Steve, you were just incredible out there everywhere. Steve was a Colonel of the United States Army, something near and dear to my heart.

But your two sisters, Debra, I was actually pleased oftentimes to see you not there.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE McCAFFERY: Because when Nancy or Mary showed up, it was just an absolute delight. They were the secret weapon of Debra Todd out in the field, if you would, because your sisters are absolutely your secret weapon. They are an incredible team. Great, great ladies.

And again, I just wanted to thank you for that experience and we had a great run in these venues. Thank you.

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Justice Max Baer. Brief.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE BAER: I sure have to be for the Governor. I am never on time and I'm never brief. And it is a point of amusement among us. But I'll try. I'll fail, but I'll try.

I want to take advantage of the fact that I'm fortunate enough to sit here really quickly to acknowledge two people specifically. One is Judge Bob Daniels who didn't stay on Superior Court but as of Monday retired from that court, we hope temporarily, as he seeks yet another appointment. But as Justice Fitzgerald and Justice Baldwin, we appreciate his service.

And the second is Justin Johnson. I don't want to embarrass Justin, but as somebody who wanted to be a judge his whole life, many of my heroes are judges. And one of my greatest heroes is Judge Johnson, who for 27 years, so long that I had to get the specific amount, has been a role model, a constant source of inspiration, to every judge in the Commonwealth and around the country, and who retired on Monday.

So if we could say thank you to Judge Johnson.

(Applause.)

JUSTICE BAER: Debra and Alexandra, you set a record. You managed to both interrupt the Chief Justice with the first words out of your mouth.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE TODD: Another woman at the table.

JUSTICE BAER: You're in such a good mood here, you might be sharing a cell right now.

INSTALLATION

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE BAER: I've also known Debra forever. Known her before I think anybody especially went out of their way to shake either of our hands. Certainly before any idea that either of us would ever run for or serve on this court was a twinkle in anybody's eyes. So I know her many attributes.

I've also now been on this Court for four years, so I have some idea of what it takes. And I frankly think the speakers today got it relatively right. And I noted what they said when they dovetailed Debra's qualities and what it takes.

It takes knowledge, as our great Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll explained. It takes honesty, as Chief Justice Zapalla explained. You got to be smart, as the Governor said. And you got to work hard. You've got to work hard. There's no substitute for that.

But as the Governor also said, I think there's no substitute for courage on our Court. If you start caring about the popularity of a decision, you're through. It's time to hang it up and go elsewhere. You've got to do what you believe is the right thing.

I didn't like, especially like the eulogy, although I don't know that I like Bat Mitzvah. I would call this a honeymoon.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE BAER: Let me give you a quick story of what happened to me last Friday in Philadelphia that exemplified this and send you from this honeymoon period into the real world.

There was a large crowd there for Justice McCaffery's swearing-in. I didn't get there early enough, and, like you, I knew everybody there, so I thought I'd go out and say hi to friends.

Well, the first people I met were two sheriffs. Now, this is true. Two sheriffs from two outlying counties in Philadelphia. And they grabbed me and I thought, oh, isn't that nice, they recognize me and they're going to say hi.

They said you wrote that decision in which you said that sheriffs cannot initiate drug investigations. I said yes. They said, worst decision we ever read. So I said sorry and tried to move on, avoiding any confrontations.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

Bumped into an old friend who's a labor lawyer. And he said what are you doing to us? You wrote that decision that said that the Civil Service Act trumps all of our bargaining agreements. You've destroyed the whole fabric of organized labor in Pennsylvania. Then he paused and he says, worst decision I've ever seen.

So I grabbed him and I took him over to the sheriffs and I said I want you two to argue about which of my decisions is the worst in the history of Pennsylvania.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE BAER: So enjoy the honeymoon. Enjoy the adulation. Buy yourself a bulletproof vest and get ready to use all of those qualities and to work hard in pursuing justice and not pursue popularity.

When John F. Kennedy, who the Chief Justice mentioned, had been in office for about six months, he was asked by a member of the press, do you like the position? And in his typical erudite way, he said the Greeks define happiness as using your full powers in the pursuit of excellence. He said by that definition I like being President very much.

And by that definition, Debra, you're going to be a great Chief Justice and we're going to be very glad to have you. Congratulations.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you for those brief remarks.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: You referred to Judge Todd incorrectly. I'm the Chief Justice, not Debra.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We will now hear from Justice Michael Eakin.

JUSTICE EAKIN: Speaking after Max, I will appear brief.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE EAKIN: It occurred to me in remarks earlier that if there are five women who have served on this Court,

INSTALLATION

I have been seated next to three of them on this Court, Justice Newman, Justice Baldwin and now Justice Todd.

You may not be aware, we have assigned seats according to seniority and such, so we will be spending our time on the bench next to each other. And I think you will find, as Max alluded to, that it's harder to stay under the radar now, and everything you write will be dissected. It will be disagreed with.

I incidentally was in dissent in both those cases.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE EAKIN: The sheriffs and the labor leaders like me today.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE EAKIN: But probably not next month when some other case comes down.

It is life in a fish bowl in that sense, and you will find yourself wishing to concur in part and quibble in part more often than perhaps you would like. But somebody's got to do it.

And I know in my heart that you will do it with the right values in mind and do it the right way. And if you're ever in doubt of what that might be, you can look over at and peek at my notes.

JUSTICE TODD: I was just going to ask you not to look at mine.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: We will have no cheating, no cribbing notes please.

Now we'll hear from the Senior Justice, Tom Saylor.

JUSTICE SAYLOR: I'd like to add my welcome to that of my colleagues and echo Judge Johnson's observations that the Superior Court is a great training ground for service on our Court. And I'm the beneficiary of that experience, as are several of my colleagues. And I know that you'll bring the experience you gained on the Superior Court to our Court to our benefit.

HONORABLE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD

On a personal note, Debra and I shared two long, hot, difficult summers with our grand judge from Connecticut in Charlottesville at the University of Virginia Law School working on our Masters of Law degrees.

I remember that Justice Todd read so much it damaged her retina the first summer, but she came back and got through the course.

But there were a few social events to break the monotony of study in the two summers. I know that there are a few photographs of Justice Todd that were —

JUSTICE TODD: That's enough.

(Laughter.)

JUSTICE SAYLOR: Which they somehow managed to embargo during the campaign. Judge Blue may have a few copies, but he's from Connecticut. My copies are safe because I value collegiality.

JUSTICE TODD: I was only tap dancing.

JUSTICE SAYLOR: But in any event, I do look forward to working with you in the years to come to benefit the citizens of Pennsylvania.

JUSTICE TODD: Thank you, Justice.

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Let me just say welcome, Madame Justice Todd.

This Supreme Court of Pennsylvania was the only one in the United States where a U. S. Marine was elected to the Supreme Court, and that was me. It is now the only Supreme Court in the United States where there's two former U.S. Marines on the court, Justice McCaffery.

(Laughter and applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: So I truly think that we're going to need the balance that you will provide.

Now we will, if they're still here, Andre Bierman and Cynthia Pock will provide a musical selection.

(Musical selection.)

INSTALLATION

(Applause.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Cynthia and Andre. It was beautiful.

We'll now have the benediction performed by the Reverend Gleason.

REVEREND GLEASON: Let us pray. Almighty God, you sit in judgment to declare what is right and just. Bless the courts and magistrates of our land. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding that they may perceive the truth, administer the law impartially as instruments of your divine will.

We especially ask your abiding blessing for Debra. Guide her in the knowledge of your will and in the love of your teaching. Keep her steadfast in regard for truth, righteousness and justice. Watch over her family and shelter them with your care. Guard and protect Debra, Stephan and Alexandra in their life together and keep them in health and safety. Grant them the assurance of your presence and protection in all they do. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

(Chorus of amens.)

CHIEF JUSTICE CASTILLE: Thank you, Reverend.

Mr. Minner, you may now adjourn this ceremonial session of the Supreme Court.

COURT CRIER: This session stands adjourned.

(At 12:32 p.m., the Ceremonial Session of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania was adjourned.)

†