

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

.  
IN THE MATTER OF: ) Thursday, August 15, 2013  
 ) at 2:00 p.m.  
CEREMONY OF INVESTITURE )  
 )  
OF ) Superior Court  
 ) Courtroom No. 8B  
ANDREA L. ROCANELLI ) New Castle County Courthouse  
 )  
AS AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE )  
OF THE SUPERIOR COURT )

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

SITTING: HON. JAMES T. VAUGHN, JR., PRESIDENT  
JUDGE  
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE  
HON. RICHARD R. COOCH, RESIDENT JUDGE  
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

PRESENT: HON. JACK A. MARKELL, GOVERNOR  
OF DELAWARE and FIRST LADY CARLA MARKELL  
HON. RANDY J. HOLLAND, JUSTICE  
SUPREME COURT OF DELAWARE  
HON. ALEX J. SMALLS, CHIEF JUDGE  
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR THE  
STATE OF DELAWARE

MICHAEL MCGOWAN ON BEHALF OF  
SENATOR CRIS COONS

Members of the Delaware General Assembly, Judges  
Of the State and Federal Courts, Commissioners  
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Official Court Reporter  
500 N. King Street Suite 2609  
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1           And Others.

2  
3           PRESENT:

4                   As noted.

5                                   - - - - -

6           PRESIDENT JUDGE VAUGHN: Please remain standing  
7 for the Invocation by Brother Ronald Giannone, Executive  
8 Director of the Ministry of Caring.

9                   Brother Giannone.

10           BROTHER GIANNONE: Most high and glorious God.  
11 You are good, all good, supreme good, and from you all good  
12 comes. You have called us to be your living image on this  
13 earth, and imitating you and bringing your peace and  
14 goodness to all. We need your wisdom and guidance.

15                   We gather today as Andrea begins her career as a  
16 Superior Court judge of the State of Delaware as she is  
17 invested with the oath of office. May she be blessed to  
18 judge wisely and distribute justice fairly; may she temper  
19 justice with mercy and instill within those who come before  
20 her a sense of compassion, kindness and goodness. For  
21 them, we have reflected your goodness on this earth. May  
22 you bless Andrea with all the virtues and wisdom from  
23 above.

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1 Amen.

2 PRESIDENT JUDGE VAUGHN: Thank you, Brother  
3 Giannone.

4 Please be seated.

5 Well, good afternoon to everyone and welcome to  
6 this Special Session of the Superior Court of the State of  
7 Delaware for the Investiture of Andrea L. Rocanelli as a  
8 Judge of the Superior Court.

9 I would like to begin by introducing those who  
10 are seated with me on the bench today.

11 To my immediate right is Chief Justice Myron T.  
12 Steele of the Supreme Court of Delaware. To my immediate  
13 left is Chief Judge Alex J. Smalls, of the Court of Common  
14 Pleas. To the right of Chief Justice Steele is Resident  
15 Judge Richard R. Cooch of the Superior Court, and to the  
16 left of Chief Judge Smalls is Judge Mary M. Johnston of the  
17 Superior Court. And to Judge Johnston's left is where  
18 Superior Court Judge Andrea Rocanelli will be seated soon.

19 In the jury box are the Superior Court Judges and  
20 Commissioners with robes on, for the Special Session of The  
21 Court.

22 The Court recognizes the family members and the  
23 many friends of our new Superior Court Judge who are

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1 present today, and in particular, Judge Rocanelli's  
2 husband, Todd, her children, Olivia, Elena and Simone, her  
3 parents, Louis and Theresa Rocanelli, her sister, Linda  
4 Rocanelli, brother-in-law, Frank Falcone, sister-in-law,  
5 Beverly Kenney, her aunt, Dorothy Simone, and friends,  
6 Judge Bifferato, Judge Poppiti, Vice Chancellor Lamb, and  
7 Commissioner Mary Susan Much. The Court also recognizes  
8 Governor Jack A. Markell and First Lady, Carla Markell.

9 I also thank you both for being here today.

10 Also, Michael McGowan, who is here on behalf of  
11 Senator Coons, and the Members of the Delaware Judiciary  
12 and the Bar who are here.

13 To all, a warm and special welcome to the  
14 Superior Court.

15 We're here today to commemorate the beginning of  
16 Andrea Rocanelli's career as a member of the Superior  
17 Court, our State's general jurisdiction trial court. The  
18 proceeding is one of Investiture, where the historical  
19 robing is of special ceremony, significance and public  
20 commitment under oath. The robe, itself, is a symbol of  
21 impartiality and the Judge's solemn duty to administer  
22 equal justice on behalf of the people we serve.

23 It is now my pleasure to ask Chief Justice Steele

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1 to administer the Oath of Office.

2 Judge Rocanelli's husband, Todd, will hold the  
3 bible, assisted by her daughters, and her parents will then  
4 assist with the robing.

5 Are you prepared to take the oath?

6 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: Are you prepared to take  
7 the oath?

8 ANDREA ROCANELLI: Yes.

9 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: Place your right hand on  
10 the bible. Please repeat after me:

11 "I,

12 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "I, Andrea L. Rocanelli"

13 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "Do proudly swear"

14 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "Do proudly swear"

15 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "to carry out the  
16 responsibilities,"

17 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "to carry out the  
18 responsibilities,"

19 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "of Judge of the Superior  
20 Court of the State of Delaware,"

21 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "of Judge of the Superior  
22 Court of the State of Delaware,"

23 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "to the best of my

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1 ability,"

2 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "to the best of my ability,"

3 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "freely acknowledging"

4 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "freely acknowledging"

5 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "that the powers of this  
6 office,"

7 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "that the powers of this  
8 office,"

9 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "flow from the people,"

10 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "flow from the people,"

11 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "I am privileged to  
12 represent."

13 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "I am privileged to  
14 represent."

15 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "I further swear,"

16 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "I further swear,"

17 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "that I will always place  
18 the public interest,"

19 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "that I will always place the  
20 public interest,"

21 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "above any special or  
22 personal interest,"

23 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "above any special or personal

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1 interest,"

2 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "and to respect the right  
3 of future generations,"

4 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "and to respect the right of  
5 future generations,"

6 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "to share the rich  
7 historic,"

8 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "to share the rich historic,"

9 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "and natural heritage of  
10 Delaware."

11 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "and natural heritage of  
12 Delaware."

13 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "In doing so,"

14 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "In doing so,"

15 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "I will always uphold and  
16 defend,"

17 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "I will always uphold and  
18 defend,"

19 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "the constitutions of my  
20 country and my state,"

21 ANDREA ROCANELLI: "the constitutions of my  
22 country and my state,"

23 CHIEF JUSTICE STEELE: "so help me, God."

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1           ANDREA ROCANELLI, "so help me, God."

2           (All clapping of hands of congregation in  
3           congratulations.)

4           (3:50 p.m.)

5           (WHEREUPON upon Andrea L. Rocanelli puts the robe  
6           on with the assistance of her father and mother, and Judge  
7           Andrea L. Rocanelli takes the bench; whereupon, all Members  
8           of the Honorable Bench join in congratulations to Judge  
9           Rocanelli.)

10           PRESIDENT JUDGE VAUGHN: Before today's speakers  
11           are recognized, I would like to warmly welcome Andrea to  
12           the Superior Court. Her qualifications and experience make  
13           her fully deserving of the honor which the Governor and the  
14           State Senate have conferred upon her. I have no doubt that  
15           Andrea will be an excellent Superior Court Judge and a  
16           distinguished member of the Delaware Judiciary. I know  
17           that Andrea and I will have no trouble at all working  
18           together in our new relationship, and all of the judges  
19           will have no problem at all working with Andrea, and we  
20           look forward to working with her.

21           Chief Judge Smalls.

22           CHIEF JUDGE SMALLS: The Court now recognizes the  
23           Honorable Jack A. Markell, Governor of the State of

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1 Delaware, for comments.

2 THE HONORABLE GOVERNOR MARKELL: Well, good  
3 afternoon, everybody. I have to start with a very  
4 embarrassing story.

5 So, Andrea and I, when I called her to tell her  
6 that I, after, you know, considerable deliberation, had  
7 planned to send her name to the Senate for confirmation, I  
8 said this is all contingent upon a short and sweet  
9 Investiture process, because although Justice Holland just  
10 a few minutes ago complimented me on the many selections  
11 that I've had the opportunity to make to the bench over the  
12 last year, some of these investitures go on, and on, and  
13 on, and I get to participate in many of those. So, Andrea  
14 said she would take me up on that offer. And I get off of  
15 the elevator today and I'm thinking about Andrea, and I'm  
16 looking directly at Vivian Raposelli, and I said to Vivian,  
17 you remember our deal, right? And of course, it's a deal I  
18 made with Andrea. It's only made the more embarrassing  
19 because Vivian and I have worked very closely together for  
20 years.

21 But, Andrea, congratulations.

22 JUDGE ROCANELLI: Thank you.

23 GOVERNOR MARKELL: And, Carla is here as well, as

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1 you know, and she joins me in expressing our  
2 congratulations.

3           This seems a little bit like *deja vous*, because  
4 it doesn't seem so long ago that we were here for your  
5 Investiture for the Court of Common Pleas, and I am just  
6 really thrilled to be here again for this opportunity  
7 today. And, you have in my mind absolutely earned this  
8 great honor by virtue of the fact that you have  
9 demonstrated a sense of fairness, a sense of decency;  
10 you've got an incredible intellect, which is just so clear,  
11 and you have also demonstrated very high ethical standards.

12           You've demonstrated that you're a problem-solver,  
13 both through the Drug Diversion Program that you have been  
14 involved in and also through the work that you've done on  
15 consumer debt. And I think you've just had a stellar  
16 tenure on the Court of Common Pleas, and there is no doubt  
17 in my mind that you will be great on the Superior Court as  
18 well.

19           But, I wanted to make one other point, and this  
20 is especially for Olivia, Elena and Simone. You know, the  
21 other thing that I think your mom has demonstrated here,  
22 which I think is a really important characteristic, is  
23 persistence and determination. And you probably know that

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1 she had applied to be on the Superior Court, you know, a  
2 while before this particular nomination went through, and I  
3 had to make that call to her when I had decided on another  
4 candidate at that time, and she was, you know, she was  
5 clearly disappointed, as I expected her to be, and those  
6 are always the most difficult phone calls to make, and yet,  
7 she was also you could tell, she was determined, she  
8 absolutely loved what she was doing on the Court of Common  
9 Pleas, and she talked about why she loved it, and she said  
10 if that is your decision, I'm going to go right back to the  
11 Court of Common Pleas and do the very best that I can, and  
12 perhaps if another opportunity comes up on the Superior  
13 Court, you know, perhaps I will apply again, and we will  
14 have to see.

15           So, another opportunity did come up on Superior  
16 Court, and she came right back at it. I think there is an  
17 incredible lesson, and I direct it to the three of you  
18 obviously for a reason, which is, you are at the stage in  
19 your lives where you are going to experience lots of  
20 success and lots of disappointments, and I think the real  
21 test of a person is what happens when things don't go your  
22 way. And I just think that, you know, your mom  
23 demonstrated, when she came back, she never complained, she

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1 never, you know, bemoaned the fact that she hadn't been  
2 selected the first time. I think she thought through a lot  
3 how she was going to make her application the second time  
4 around as strong as it could possibly be. She came at it  
5 and once again she impressed the Judicial Nominating  
6 Committee, and she impressed me. And, I think it's that  
7 kind of resolve, it is all those skills and traits -- the  
8 intellect, the sense of decency, the compassion, the  
9 fair-mindedness and the determination, and the persistence,  
10 that are going to make your mom really an outstanding Judge  
11 on the Delaware Superior Court, and I am thrilled to be  
12 here. I would have been thrilled if it was Vivian up here.  
13 She is already there. But, I'm absolutely thrilled,  
14 Andrea, for you and for your family, and I know that you  
15 will for many years to come be just an outstanding,  
16 outstanding member of what is already a great court.

17 JUDGE ROCANELLI: Thank you.

18 GOVERNOR MARKELL: And, it's really been an honor  
19 for me -- I mean, as you know, and, as Justice Holland and  
20 I were speaking about it just a few minutes ago. There  
21 have been a lot of vacancies in recent months, and some of  
22 those vacancies have been filled by people sitting over  
23 there now, and some people sitting in the first row, over

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1 there. We are fortunate, you know, the Chief Justice and I  
2 where up in Vermont just a couple weeks ago. He asked me  
3 to speak at a meeting of all of the Chief Justices from  
4 states across the country in his role as the outgoing Head  
5 of the Chief Justice Association, and it gives me so much  
6 pride, when I go around the country, when I'm able to talk  
7 about the fact that over and over and over again our courts  
8 are recognized as the best courts, and it's not just one  
9 court or another court, it is all our courts. And I think  
10 that is a real testament to the outstanding leadership of  
11 the Chief Justice, but it is also a really a testament to  
12 the terrific people, many of whom are sacrificing a lot by  
13 choosing this line of work as opposed to other things they  
14 could be doing. And we know it's a sacrifice for the  
15 families as well, and so to the entire Rocanelli family,  
16 thank you, to all of you who are here to support, Andrea,  
17 thanks, and certainly to the members of the Superior Court,  
18 thank you for welcoming somebody who is just going to be a  
19 fantastic colleague.

20 Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT JUDGE VAUGHN: Thank you.

22 Judge Johnston.

23 JUDGE JOHNSTON: It is my distinct privilege and

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1 pleasure to introduce to you, Justice Randy J. Holland.

2 Judge Rocanelli and I had the honor of appearing  
3 before Justice Holland when we worked together at the  
4 Office of Disciplinary Council, so I now give you the  
5 quintessential Delaware Supreme Court Jurist, Justice  
6 Holland.

7 JUSTICE HOLLAND: Thank you very much Governor  
8 Markell, Chief Justice, President Judge Vaughn, Judge  
9 Rocanelli, all of the distinguished members of the State-  
10 and Federal Bench, Judge Rocanelli's family, and everyone  
11 who is here, this is a great day. And, before I talk about  
12 why it is a great day for Delaware with Judge Rocanelli's  
13 Investiture, let me just say another reason why this is a  
14 special day: Judge Vincent Bifferato is here, retired from  
15 the Superior Court, and 45 years ago, today, he was sworn  
16 in as a Judge of the Superior Court.

17 (Gleeful Applause.)

18 JUSTICE HOLLAND: Judge Bifferato, we're proud of  
19 your service. All of you may not know this, but Judge  
20 Bifferato is one of the few trial judges in the entire  
21 United States who had his opinion cited by the United  
22 States Supreme Court. Quite a compliment. And, Judge  
23 Bifferato's tenure on the Court led to the excellence that

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1 the Governor was talking about a moment ago, that led to  
2 Delaware's ranking the entire court system as number one in  
3 the country for the last decade. And a lot of that ranking  
4 is attributable to the Superior Court.

5 Judge Bifferato set that standard, it's been  
6 passed on by his colleagues, and not only is it perpetuated  
7 but it is enhanced today by the Investiture of Judge  
8 Rocanelli.

9 In trying to think about what I might say today,  
10 I was looking at the book by Stephen Covey, you all know  
11 about, called The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People,  
12 and you can look at that in your leisure, and what you will  
13 conclude is that Judge Rocanelli has all of those habits.

14 But, Covey starts out his book by talking about  
15 something else. He starts out by talking about what he  
16 describes as "the character ethic," and he says that is the  
17 basic principle that effects living, and it is separate and  
18 apart from the seven habits, and he calls it "the  
19 foundation for success," and when he describes the  
20 character ethic, what he lists are, integrity, humility,  
21 fidelity, temperance, courage, justice, patience, industry,  
22 simplicity, modesty, and following The Golden Rule.

23 Justice Rocanelli does all of those things, and

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1 according to Covey, it is only if you do them and integrate  
2 it into your character that you can have a happy and  
3 fulfilling life.

4 Judge Rocanelli certainly has.

5 Her accomplishments are remarkable, and her  
6 interests are diverse. They started at Harvard Law School,  
7 which is a pretty good start, and after that she was in  
8 private practice in Boston, and then with Morris Nichols  
9 Arsht & Tunnell, and I met her, not surprisingly, when she  
10 was involved in some public service helping get the Board  
11 of Bar Examiners ready for the Pre-admission Conference for  
12 new lawyers. And I remember the day, vividly. It was down  
13 at the Arsht Center, and you all have heard -- you only get  
14 one chance to make a first impression, and my first  
15 impression was, this is a remarkable person. And now, in  
16 the years that I have known Judge Rocanelli since then, I  
17 just keep adding superlatives to the word "remarkable" and  
18 I'm sure if you had to fill in the blanks, you would be  
19 doing the same thing.

20 She has had an impressive career at the Bar, and  
21 what is particularly noteworthy is that she served as the  
22 Chief Disciplinary Counsel for the Delaware Supreme Court,  
23 Office of Disciplinary Responsibility. And what is

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1 significant about that, is, that on behalf of the Supreme  
2 Court she was our representative, our example of what it  
3 meant to be an ethical lawyer in Delaware. She was  
4 responsible for enforcing the Rules of Ethics, and she did  
5 that with grace and dignity. But what was most noteworthy  
6 as it relates to her judicial career, is that, she not only  
7 made sure that lawyers who violated the Rules got the  
8 punishment they deserved, she also made sure that they got  
9 the help they needed. And it was under her leadership that  
10 we established the Delaware Substance Abuse Program and we  
11 really began to start helping lawyers. And she continued  
12 that when she left the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and  
13 went to the Court of Common Pleas.

14 As the Governor mentioned, she was active in the  
15 Drug Diversion Program, and she was a founding member of  
16 the Coalition of Health Care and Law Enforcement  
17 Representatives that talked about alternatives to many  
18 things, including alternatives to prostitution.

19 She was a SENTAC Commissioner. Once again, that  
20 is the Sentencing Accountability Commission. She wanted  
21 people to be held accountable, but she wanted the sentences  
22 to be fair. In addition to that, she served on the State  
23 Council for Interstate Adult Offenders Supervision, showing

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1 her continuing interest in people that were introduced into  
2 the criminal justice system. She simply didn't want them  
3 to serve their time and go out into society without any  
4 guidance, she wanted to make sure they were supervised,  
5 rehabilitated, and had an opportunity to conduct useful  
6 lives.

7           The Supreme Court has looked to her regularly for  
8 her expertise and guidance. Even when she's been on the  
9 court, we've asked her to stay on our Continuing Legal  
10 Education Commission for Lawyers, because we know that that  
11 is an important responsibility, and she can contribute to  
12 the type of things that lawyers need to know, including for  
13 example, we've added programs in how you manage your office  
14 practice, because when she was in the Office of  
15 Disciplinary Counsel she could see where that would be a  
16 problem.

17           We also recognized her intellectual abilities,  
18 and we asked her to stay on the Permanent Advisory  
19 Committee on the Rules of Evidence, for all courts, not  
20 just The Court of Common Pleas or the Superior Court -- for  
21 all courts.

22           The Delaware Bar Association has looked to her  
23 also. She helped them with access to justice. As the

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1 Governor mentioned, in particular, she's been helping with  
2 the Consumer Debt Collection Program. The Bar Association  
3 also looked to her when they needed help with diversity,  
4 and she's taken a lead role on the Diversity Committee. `.

5 But, when Judge Rocanelli gets involved in  
6 something, she doesn't just participate, she leads. And  
7 the Rodney Inn of Court is a good sample. The Inns of  
8 Court was started many years ago by Chief Justice Warren  
9 Berger to promote ethics, stability, professionalism and  
10 legal excellence. They have monthly meetings, and they  
11 train lawyers how to be effective advocates. The key of  
12 the American Inns of Court is to be a mentor. Judge  
13 Rocanelli is now the president of the Rodney Inn of Court,  
14 mentoring young lawyers about those four principles.

15 We couldn't have a better person in that  
16 leadership role.

17 And, her many accomplishments have all received  
18 well-deserved recognition. She received a Judicial  
19 Partnership Award, and that was from the Delaware Division  
20 of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, and that was for a  
21 lead role she took in helping individuals with mental  
22 health and substance-abuse issues.

23 The Delaware State Bar Association gave her the

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1 Women's Leadership Award for being a role model for other  
2 women professionals.

3           The American Bar Association gave her a national  
4 award from the Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs for  
5 what she did in establishing the outstanding Lawyers  
6 Assistance Program in Delaware.

7           Now, all of these accomplishments came about  
8 because day in and day out Judge Rocanelli applied those  
9 principles that Covey described as "the character ethic."

10           Now, there is the book called, "The Tipping  
11 Point." And, in that book they talk about how at some time  
12 there is a point when there is a paradigm shift, when  
13 things really change. Well, the premise of the book is  
14 that it doesn't come about except through gradual  
15 day-to-day efforts, and the point is that little things can  
16 make a big difference.

17           An example they gave is crime in New York City.

18           And what they showed there is that a small number  
19 of people, in a small number of situations, have a huge  
20 impact because they started behaving differently towards  
21 crime, and other people started behaving differently  
22 towards crime. All of the changes were incremental, but  
23 all of the changes had big effects.

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1           Judge Rocanelli's professional career has been  
2 constantly moving towards establishing tipping points. She  
3 has done that with mental health, drug addiction,  
4 prostitution and incarceration.

5           How does that happen?

6           We find part of the answer in another book  
7 called, "The Adjacent Possible." And that illustrates how  
8 you do what is readily available to the best of your  
9 ability, and when you do what is readily available to the  
10 best of your ability, it can lead to greater things.

11          I think to start this story is a good example.

12          Many of you have heard that story before about a  
13 person walking along the beach with thousands of starfish,  
14 and the person is picking up starfish as they go along and  
15 throwing them back into the ocean, saving their lives.  
16 Someone else comes along and says, you know, you can't save  
17 them all. It's really not going to make a difference. And  
18 the individual picks up another starfish, throws it into  
19 the sea, and says, "Well, it made a difference to that  
20 one." And that is pretty much how the story ends, with a  
21 lot of starfish saved, but many more left on the beach.

22          I think Judge Rocanelli's story of the starfish  
23 has a different ending. And the way I see it ending, is

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1 her walking down the beach, throwing starfish back into the  
2 ocean, and when she turns around, there are no starfish on  
3 the beach. And the reason there are no starfish on the  
4 beach is because the one she threw in, came out and got  
5 others, and took them back. And that is really what she  
6 has been doing, and it illustrates living a life by what's  
7 been described as, "The Positive Principle" and the  
8 Positive Principle says, people should deal forthrightly  
9 but creatively with realistic problems. And they do that  
10 by having a positive attitude. And along with their  
11 positive attitude, they send out positive images of hope,  
12 optimism and creativity, and then the activities around  
13 them show the same results and produce positive results.

14 Judge Rocanelli's life demonstrates the power of  
15 one person to make a difference.

16 She has made a difference during her tenure on  
17 the Court of Common Pleas, and she will make a difference  
18 in her tenure on the Superior Court. Not only a difference  
19 in the lives of every litigant that comes before her, but a  
20 difference in the administration of justice for all.

21 So, today, is an opportunity for all of us to  
22 thank her family and her for devoting her enormous talents  
23 to public service.

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1 Thank you.

2 PRESIDENT JUDGE VAUGHN: Thank you, Justice  
3 Holland.

4 It is now my privilege to call upon our new  
5 Superior Court Judge for her greetings.

6 Judge Rocanelli.

7 JUDGE ROCANELLI: Thank you, President Judge  
8 Vaughn.

9 Good afternoon, Governor Markell, and First Lady  
10 Markell, Brother Ronald, Justice Holland, Chief Justice  
11 Steele, President Judge Vaughn, Chief Judge Smalls,  
12 Resident Judge Cooch, Judge Johnston, Members of the  
13 Federal Bench, Mike McGowan is here on behalf of Senator  
14 Coons. Thank you very much. And to my colleagues on the  
15 Superior Court, my friends from the Court of Common Pleas  
16 friends, family, everyone who is here today, I thank you  
17 and I welcome you.

18 It is an honor to serve as a Delaware Judge, and  
19 I am thankful for the privilege of serving, first, as a  
20 Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and now as a Superior  
21 Court Judge.

22 Being a Judge in CCP was challenging and  
23 interesting. I found it to be personally and

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1 professionally rewarding, and I hope that I made a  
2 qualitative difference in the lives of citizens and in the  
3 administration of justice since I was appointed to the  
4 bench.

5           In civil cases, in the Court of Common Pleas, I  
6 especially enjoyed cases involving individuals, homeowners  
7 and small business owners. Presiding on these cases was  
8 consistent with my own personal experience in small  
9 businesses, in Brooklyn, throughout high school and  
10 college, especially at my parents' own restaurant, which  
11 was located next to my dad's butcher shop.

12           While I enjoyed the challenges of my work in the  
13 Court of Common Pleas, and I do hope that I made a  
14 significant contribution to the Court and to the community,  
15 the work of the Superior Court involves complex commercial  
16 litigation for which I was responsible as a lawyer in  
17 private practice.

18           I will work hard to promptly, fairly, efficiently  
19 and effectively adjudicate the more complex civil cases, as  
20 well as the more serious criminal cases that come before  
21 the Superior Court. I will endeavor to uphold the  
22 reputation of the Court, and to meet the expectations of  
23 litigants.

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1           The civil cases adjudicated in Superior Court  
2 present highly-complex legal issues that must be resolved  
3 promptly. The criminal cases involve a different kind of  
4 challenge: how to impose sentences that are consistent  
5 with the legislative mandate, that protect the community,  
6 that hold offenders accountable, that foster justice and  
7 promote the Rule of Law, while meeting the needs of  
8 offenders, many of whom have significant mental health and  
9 substance-abuse problems.

10           My goal is not just to do justice, but to inspire  
11 confidence in the justice system.

12           Every contact with a member of the public, a  
13 victim, a witness, a defendant, a family member, is an  
14 opportunity to inspire confidence and demonstrate fairness.

15           If we can inspire confidence, then our work will  
16 have more credibility, and we will be more effective.

17           I have been very fortunate.

18           My parents are here today, and I want to thank  
19 them for all of the sacrifices they made so that I have a  
20 chance to sit here before you, today, here, in this seat.

21           My husband, Todd, is here. His support has been  
22 unwavering, and I am thankful for it.

23           I feel very grateful for my three daughters, who

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1 are accomplished, and vivacious -- Olivia, Elena and  
2 Simone, you inspire me.

3 My sister, Linda, and my sister-in-law, Bev, I  
4 thank you for being both sisters and friends.

5 Judge Biff, it is an honor to share August 15th  
6 with you.

7 I am grateful to Governor Markell for this  
8 opportunity to serve the public.

9 Thank you for appointing me; I thank the Senate  
10 for confirming the appointment.

11 I have been very fortunate to have many mentors,  
12 many of whom are present here today. I hope you will all  
13 celebrate with us across the street at the Bar Center.

14 I thank you all for being mentors.

15 I want to thank one of my mentors, Kristin  
16 Dangelo, who mentored me at the Court of Common Pleas.  
17 She is my Judicial Assistant, and anyone who has tried to  
18 get in contact with me, spent more time speaking with  
19 Kristin. Sometimes I think she speaks to my daughters more  
20 than I do.

21 Thank you. Thank you to all of you who have  
22 encouraged me, taught me, inspired me and supported me on  
23 my path. I will work hard to justify your confidence. And

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1 I do hope that you will join us for a snack across the  
2 street for some refreshments, and fellowship.

3 Thank you very much.

4 PRESIDENT JUDGE VAUGHN: Ladies and gentlemen,  
5 that does conclude the Special Session of the Court. And  
6 as Judge Rocanelli mentioned, you are welcome to greet her  
7 at a reception at the Bar Center of the Delaware State Bar  
8 Association, which is at 405 North King Street.

9 Court is now adjourned.

10 (WHEREUPON, at 4:20 p.m. the Special Session for  
11 the Investiture Ceremony of Andrea L. Rocanelli, is  
12 concluded.)

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2  
3 *STATE OF DELAWARE:*

4 *IN AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY:*

5  
6 *CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER*

7 *I, Jean Preston, Official Court*  
8 *Reporter of the Superior Court, State of Delaware, do*  
9 *hereby certify that the foregoing is an accurate*  
10 *transcription of the proceedings had as reported by me in*  
11 *the Superior Court of the State of Delaware, in and for*  
12 *New Castle County, in the case herein stated, as the same*  
13 *remains of record in the Office of the Prothonotary at*  
14 *Wilmington, Delaware, and that I am neither of counsel*  
15 *nor kin to any party or participant in said action, nor*  
16 *interested in the outcome thereof.*

17 *This certification shall be*  
18 *considered null and void if this transcript is*  
19 *disassembled in any manner by any party without*  
20 *authorization of the signatory below.*

21 *WITNESS my hand this            day of*  
22 *2013.*

23  
*/S/Jean Preston, CSR*

*Official Court Reporter*

*Jean Preston, CSR*  
*Official Court Reporter*  
*500 N. King Street Suite 2609*  
*Wilmington, DE. 19801-3725*