

His performance as U.S. attorney has elicited high praise. The Raleigh News & Observer credited Frank Whitney for awakening elected officials to the "importance of ethics in government," and the newspaper attributed his incredible success to his "restless mental and physical energy" and "Boy Scout idealism." Others who have had the opportunity to observe Frank's work have described him as determined, yet fair.

Those who know Frank best—including those who have worked for him in the U.S. Attorney's Office—are effusive in their support for his nomination. One of Frank's colleagues made the following assessment: "Frank is personable and gracious, yet knows the law and seeks justice. He has an abiding love for our country and is deeply committed to the principles that have made it great. He appreciates the historic separation of powers and understands judicial self-restraint. Frank possesses vast legal knowledge and demonstrates admirable judicial temperament." This description is consistent with everything that I know about Frank Whitney, and I submit to my colleagues that this is precisely the type of person we need on our Federal courts.

There is another component of Frank's career that I must commend. That is his impressive record of military service, which began during his collegiate days at Wake Forest, where he participated in ROTC. Frank is presently a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, and has worked as an intelligence officer and as a judge advocate. He has been awarded numerous military honors, including a Parachutist's Badge and three Meritorious Service Medals. Frank Whitney truly has dedicated his life to serving his country—as a civilian and as a soldier.

Frank comes to the Senate floor with impeccable credentials and with the unanimous approval of the Senate Judiciary Committee. I am confident that he will serve with great distinction as a member of the Federal judiciary, and it is my great privilege to give him my strongest endorsement. I implore my colleagues to confirm him.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, today, I rise in support of a highly qualified individual to be confirmed to the Federal bench—Frank Whitney to be a U.S. district court judge in the Western District of North Carolina.

President Bush nominated Frank Whitney on February 14, 2006. Frank has impressive academic and professional credentials: He is currently a U.S. attorney in my home State of North Carolina; he has practiced in two very distinguished law firms; he was an assistant U.S. attorney in North Carolina for several years; he clerked for the DC Circuit Court of Appeals; he graduated with honors from law school at the University of North Carolina where he also received his MBA; and he graduated Phi Beta Kappa from my alma mater of Wake Forest University.

But perhaps one of the most honorable characteristics of Frank Whitney

is that he has done all of this while serving his country in the military. Frank continues his service in the Army Reserve both as an intelligence officer and as a judge advocate. He is a former paratrooper, has received three Meritorious Service Medals, and recently was selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel.

As I mentioned in my testimony to the Judiciary Committee and what I want to mention about Frank here today is that Frank is a good man. I have had the pleasure of meeting Frank's family—his wife Catherine, and one of his daughters.

Personally, as a husband and as a father, I want to feel confident that the individuals we confirm to a lifetime appointment on the Federal bench understand the seriousness and significance of the job for which they are being considered.

I am confident that Frank does understand the importance of being a Federal judge. I know Frank is qualified to serve on the bench, and I am confident that Frank will continue to serve his Nation with honor and dignity. I believe Frank will continue to make his family proud, and I am confident that North Carolina will have one of the best Federal judges in the country in Frank Whitney.

Frank Whitney possesses qualities necessary to serve as a U.S. district court judge. He is fairminded, evenhanded, and treats all with respect. He has repeatedly demonstrated a commitment to public service and a spirit of impartiality and cooperation. I believe Frank Whitney's honesty, integrity, and intelligence have earned him strong bipartisan support and he will continue to proudly serve as a representative of our country.

I thank my colleagues for supporting the nomination of Frank Whitney to be the next U.S. district court judge for the Western District of North Carolina.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Frank D. Whitney, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### NOMINATION OF THOMAS D. ANDERSON TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF VERMONT FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the last nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas D. Anderson, of Vermont, to be United States Attorney for the District of Vermont for the term of four years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I have spoken earlier about Mr. Anderson. For those of us who have been prosecutors in Vermont or care about the prosecutor's office, I think President Bush has

made a fine choice here. And, of course, I strongly support Mr. Anderson for the reasons I stated earlier.

I think everybody here and in the Department of Justice will breathe a sigh of relief. We have had wonderful acting U.S. attorneys for some time since former U.S. attorney Peter Hall went to the Second Circuit. But this will be a very good move to have him as U.S. attorney.

I compliment Tom and his family and, of course, the President.

I yield the floor.

#### CONFIRMATION OF THOMAS D. ANDERSON

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today we confirm Thomas D. Anderson as U.S. attorney for the District of Vermont. I am pleased that we acted promptly in the Judiciary Committee to report Tom's nomination to the floor and that the Senate is acting promptly to confirm him. As an assistant U.S. attorney in Burlington for 14 of the last 19 years, the managing partner of a respected Burlington law firm, and as deputy state's attorney in Newport, Tom's varied experience and long ties to Vermont have prepared him well to be Vermont's top Federal law enforcement official.

We have a strong tradition of good law enforcement in Vermont. Our most recent U.S. attorneys are part of that tradition. Charlie Tetzlaff served an extended term and has gone on to distinguish himself as the Executive Director of the U.S. Sentencing Commission. Peter Hall served ably and now fills the Vermont seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Tom is the kind of well-qualified consensus nominee who can be easily confirmed by the Senate. In fact, I joined with Republican Gov. Jim Douglas in recommending Tom to President Bush. As a former prosecutor, I have been particular impressed with his work since returning to the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2001 as head of the narcotics unit and as the lead attorney of the Department of Justice's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. He has worked closely with both Federal and State drug investigators to identify and target the highest level drug traffickers in Vermont and to coordinate major drug investigations covering many districts. I believe his work on drug crime is especially important preparation as we continue to target those crimes, which are one of Vermont's most difficult law enforcement challenges.

In addition to his work combating drug crimes, Tom has gained a wide variety of experience in private practice and as a prosecutor. He spent 3 years at the U.S. Attorney's Office in the civil division, prosecuting civil enforcement actions in Federal court brought under the False Claims Act and other statutes. In 1994, he was assigned as a special assistant attorney general for the