

Statement of Senator Dianne Feinstein on Judge Mark A. Young, Nominee to be U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California

Senate Judiciary Committee

Hearing

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to say to my colleagues that Judge Mark Young enjoys my full support for his appointment to be a U.S. District Judge in the Central District of California.

Judge Young earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1991 and his law degree from the University of Southern California in 1995.

He began his law career as an Associate at the law firm of White & Case LLP, where he litigated commercial disputes in both state and federal courts. At the firm, Judge Young primarily represented large companies and handled a range of business litigation.

Following his time at White & Case, Judge Young served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Central District of California for ten years.

The Central District of California covers seven counties and is home to more than 18 million people, making it the most populous judicial district by far. The United States Attorney's office is the second largest in the nation behind the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.

In this office, Judge Young rose to become Deputy Chief of the Organized Crime Drug Task Force and the Executive Assistant United States Attorney, the third-highest position in leadership in the office. His service in that leadership position came in 2007 and 2008, during the Bush Administration.

During his time at the United States Attorney's Office, he tried 22 cases to verdict, and briefed and argued numerous appeals before the Ninth Circuit. He also supervised the investigations and prosecutions of criminal street gangs in the Los Angeles area.

In 2008, then-Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger nominated Judge Young to serve as a judge on the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

As a judge on the state trial court, Judge Young has presided over 100 cases that have gone to verdict. Of these, appropriately 95% were jury trials and 5% were bench trials.

The substantial majority of the ABA Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary rated Judge Young “Well-Qualified” to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Conclusion

Mr. Chairman, let me close by saying that, I believe Judge Young’s qualifications show that he will bring skill, dedication, and integrity to the federal bench. I urge my colleagues to support him.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.