OPENING STATEMENT

Gabriel Camarillo

Nominee for Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Department of Defense

Mr. Chairman, Senator Reed, Members of the Committee,

I am grateful for the opportunity to appear before the Committee today. I also appreciate the confidence that President Obama, Secretary Carter and Secretary James have placed in me by supporting my nomination as Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

I begin by thanking my family for their love and support. I am joined by my wife, Nicole, and my two children, which include my 12 year-old son Ethan and my 7-year old daughter Natalie. They are equally grateful to this Committee for providing them with the basis for an excused absence from school.

I would be remiss if I did not thank my parents, siblings and countless colleagues and mentors who have enabled me to succeed. Working with the dedicated Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Department Civilians I have encountered remains the highest honor of my career. Their talent and dedication sets an example for our Nation, and their enduring contributions remain our greatest asset.

Over the past five years, I have been extremely privileged to serve with Army Soldiers, Civilians and contractors in support of the Army's acquisition efforts. This experience has underscored the vital importance of our people, the talent they contribute, and the expertise they develop. As Secretary James has stated, the Air Force's greatest strength is its people. If confirmed, I will dedicate my efforts to ensuring that our Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve and Civilian Airmen receive the support they need as they work selflessly to defend our country.

Thank you again for considering my nomination, and I look forward to your questions.