

QUOTES FOR THE RECORD ON THE D.C. CIRCUIT'S CASELOAD

- **Former Chief Judge Harry Edwards** has said, “[R]eview of large, multi-party, difficult administrative appeals is the staple of judicial work in the D.C. Circuit. This alone distinguishes the work of the D.C. Circuit from the work of other Circuits; it also explains why it is impossible to compare the work of the D.C. Circuit with other Circuits by simply referring to raw data on case filings.”
- **Chief Justice Roberts** has noted that “about two-thirds of the cases before the D.C. Circuit involve the federal government in some civil capacity, while that figure is less than twenty-five percent nationwide,” and that less time-consuming “prisoner petitions—which make up a notable portion of the docket nation-wide on other courts of appeals—are a less significant part of its work.” He also described the “D.C. Circuit’s unique character, as a court with special responsibility to review legal challenges to the conduct of the national government.”
- **Judge Laurence Silberman** has said “I very much agree...as to the unique nature of the D.C. Circuit’s caseload, and therefore do not believe a direct comparison to the other circuits is called for.”
- **Former Chief Judge Patricia Wald** has said “The D.C. Circuit hears the most complex, time-consuming, labyrinthine disputes over regulations with the greatest impact on ordinary Americans’ lives: clean air and water regulations, nuclear plant safety, health-care reform issues, insider trading and more. These cases can require thousands of hours of preparation by the judges, often consuming days of argument, involving hundreds of parties and interveners, and necessitating dozens of briefs and thousands of pages of record — all of which culminates in lengthy, technically intricate legal opinions... The nature of the D.C. Circuit’s caseload is what sets it apart from other courts.”
- **Former Chief Judge Douglas Ginsburg** has said “While the aggregate numbers of case filings and dispositions are highly relevant, the unique nature of the D.C. Circuit's jurisdiction is the most important consideration in evaluating this court's workload.”