

Peter Kirsanow to Testify at Sotomayor Hearing

JULY 16, 2009

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CLEVELAND, OH - JULY 16, 2009 - Benesch attorney Peter N. Kirsanow will testify today at the Senate Committee on the Judiciary hearing on the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor to be Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. The Committee began the hearing on Monday, July 13 in Washington D.C.

The focus of Mr. Kirsanow's testimony will be on the civil rights-related cases decided by Sotomayor, with particular concentration on *Ricci v. DeStefano*. This June 2009 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court reversed the per curiam decision of the Second Circuit, in which Sotomayor participated.

Mr. Kirsanow's testimony at the Sotomayor hearing marks his third such appearance. He previously testified at Supreme Court nomination hearings of John Roberts in 2005 and Samuel A. Alito, Jr. in 2006. Mr. Kirsanow will be the only attorney from Ohio to appear at the Sotomayor hearing.

Mr. Kirsanow, a partner with the firm's Labor & Employment Practice Group, frequently testifies before and advises members of the U.S. Congress on various employment laws and issues. He focuses his practice on representing management in employment-related litigation, as well as in contract negotiations, NLRB proceedings, EEO matters and arbitration. Mr. Kirsanow is a former member of the National Labor Relations Board and was also reappointed by President Bush to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, where he is serving his second six-year term. This is a part-time position.

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