

Opening Statement of Jason Evans
Nominee for Under Secretary of State for Management
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
July 22, 2025

Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Shaheen, and distinguished Members of this Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. It is a distinct honor to be considered for the role of Under Secretary of State for Management at the U.S. Department of State. I would like to thank President Trump and Secretary Rubio for their confidence in me and for the opportunity to serve in this important position.

I would also like to thank my many friends and colleagues both here in the room today and watching online, and my children and family, who have been a source of unwavering support throughout my diplomatic career. I especially want to thank my wife, Jackie, whose love and support enables everything I do.

As a career Foreign Service Officer, I am deeply committed to the mission of the Department and the support, safety, and security of my colleagues and their families. The role for which I have been nominated affects every member of our workforce around the globe, and, if confirmed, I will work to ensure our people have what they need to do the important work of the State Department, no matter their location or rank.

My priority is to ensure that every person we send overseas is protected from harm, from our ambassadors to the youngest children of our colleagues and everyone in between. By doing so, we enable our officials to fulfill the Department's mission and produce positive results for the American people.

The Under Secretary for Management leads the "M Family," which encompasses 13 bureaus and offices within the Department, ranging from budget to IT to security and physical assets to HR and procurement, and is directly responsible for ensuring the safety and security of our workforce. The Bureau of Diplomatic Security holds the mandate for physical security at our overseas missions and residences, as well as for our staff and their families. Our Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations is tasked with maintaining existing facilities and constructing new, safe, and secure facilities for our overseas operations. And the Bureau of

Medical Services is dedicated to maintaining the mental and physical health of our personnel and their families. There is no greater responsibility than safeguarding those who serve our nation abroad, and I am committed to upholding this duty with the utmost dedication.

I will also work to uphold our America First Foreign Policy. Through the Bureau of Consular Affairs—or CA, as we call it—the Department supports the international travel of American citizens through our domestic passport offices, as well as assisting American citizens overseas through our Embassies and Consulates. CA also is on the front lines of facilitating legitimate travel to the United States for foreign citizens, while identifying and stopping those who might threaten our national security or public safety. As Secretary Rubio said during his May budget hearings, “We are going to prioritize people that come into our country on the basis of what’s in the interests of this country.” Striking this delicate balance between facilitating legitimate travel and protecting Americans is a challenge. If confirmed as Under Secretary for Management, I will ensure CA has the personnel and resources needed to effectively fulfill its missions in these critical areas.

And the Secretary’s efforts to realign resources across the Department are essential for enhancing our operational efficiency; shifting our national security priorities so that we are safer, stronger, and more prosperous; and delivering on the America First Foreign Policy the President and Secretary have outlined. Reducing duplicative and redundant functions, holding the Department’s regional and functional bureaus accountable, and encouraging ambitious and innovative thinking in the spirit of cost savings, efficiency, and Department morale are key outcomes from this effort.

We must also continually evaluate how we do business in our embassies and consulates overseas. When looking at our overseas presence, we need to answer three basic questions to ensure we are making the best use of the resources and personnel entrusted to us:

1. Is the current structure of our overseas operation as efficient as it could be?
2. Do we have the correct people doing the correct things at our Embassies and Consulates?

3. Is everything we do here in Washington focused on supporting our personnel overseas and ensuring reciprocal treatment of our personnel and their families?

Additionally, we need to take a closer look at how we evaluate and assign our foreign service officers to ensure we are promoting the right people based solely on merit and that we have the right people in the right places. These longer-term efforts will reshape the Foreign Service and improve the efficacy of our diplomatic corps.

It is a great honor to serve our country as a diplomat, and, if confirmed, I look forward to working with this committee and the dedicated professionals at the Department of State to achieve these goals.

I want to thank the Committee for considering my nomination and I look forward to answering any questions you may have.