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UNITED STATES SENATOR - NORTH CAROLINA
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Hagan Comments On Edwards Indictment

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CHARLOTTE, N.C. – United States Senator Kay R. Hagan today commented on the indictment of John Edwards.

"First and foremost, my thoughts and prayers are with the Edwards' children, Cate, Emma Claire and Jack. They have endured so much pain during the last year, including the passing of their remarkable mother, Elizabeth.

"It is now time to move forward expeditiously with the nomination of Thomas Walker for U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina. In March 2009, shortly after my swearing-in, I convened a statewide panel, led by former North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Burley Mitchell, to find the most qualified, competent and fair-minded candidates for federal appointments. Mr. Walker is one of the fine legal minds recommended by the panel for U.S. Attorney, and I was proud to further recommend him to the President. In the interest of avoiding even the appearance of partisanship in federal prosecutions, I also asked the White House to allow the sitting U.S. Attorney to complete pending investigations into public officials. Finally, those investigations are complete.

"Today, I forwarded Mr. Walker's blue slip to the Senate Judiciary Committee, which will expedite his nomination to be the next U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina."