CITY OF NEW ORLEANS



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

715 South Broad Street New Orleans, LA 70119

"to protect and to serve"



May 12, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer, Majority Leader
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader
The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Chairman Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter of Support (Mr. Kenneth Polite)

Dear Mr. Schumer, Mr. McConnell, Mr. Durbin, and Mr. Grassley:

We write this letter to urge the Senate to unanimously confirm Mr. Kenneth Polite to serve as the Chief of the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice. The undersigned are the three most recent Superintendents of Police – New Orleans Police Department. We have each served with Mr. Polite while he was the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

We believe that Mr. Polite's experience ideally suits him to lead the Department of Justice's Criminal Division, which develops, enforces, and supervises the application of federal criminal laws while ensuring thorough and complete prosecution of major criminal cases throughout the nation and abroad.

During his tenure in New Orleans as the United States' Attorney, we witnessed first-hand Mr. Polite's ability to create productive and collaborative relationships with those across the criminal justice system of Southeast Louisiana – local and state police, sheriffs, judges, social workers, civil rights leaders, prosecutors, defense attorneys, victim assistance coordinators, juvenile justice administrators, and corrections leaders.

We possess a diverse set of backgrounds from within the criminal justice community and are personally familiar with Mr. Polite's professional credentials. But more importantly, we are intimately familiar with who Mr. Polite is as a leader in the criminal justice system of Louisiana and the city of New Orleans. He is a person who exhibits keen judgment and wisdom and who plays a dynamic role in promoting public safety while developing trust within communities towards the criminal justice system as a whole. He is precisely the type of person to be the Chief of the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice.

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Letter of Support (Kenneth Polite)

We submit or recommendation without hesitation or qualification. Having our first-hand experience, we can attest to the immense value Mr. Polite will bring to our nation and our criminal justice system.

Respectfully,

Shaun D. Fergus

Superintencent New Orleans Police Department (2019-Present)

Michael S. Harrison,

Commissioner – Baltimore Police Department (2019-Present)

(ret) Superintendent – New Orleans Police Department (2014-2019)

Ronal W. Serpas, Ph.D.

(ret) Superintendent – New Orleans Police Department (2010-2014)

(fmr) Chief of Police – Metro Nashville Police Department (2004-2010)

(fmr) Chief of the Washington State Patrol (2011-2003)

Professor of Practice – Loyola University New Orleans Department of Criminology and Justice (2014-Present)

Executive Director-Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration (2015-Present)