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May 16, 2022

Chairman Richard Durbin  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Charles Grassley  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

On behalf of the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, I write to express strong support for the confirmation of Steve Dettelbach as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

A highly respected prosecutor and former U.S. Attorney, Mr. Dettelbach has successfully prosecuted violent criminals, gang members, and extremists while working together with law enforcement agencies as well as the ATF. As communities nationwide are facing an increase in violent crimes and gun violence, strong leadership within the ATF is essential to coordinate and manage the range of issues that the agency is faced with. Mr. Dettelbach's decades of experience working with law enforcement agencies to prosecute these crimes proves his unwavering commitment to keeping communities safe.

We fully support the confirmation of Mr. Dettelbach as the next Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives as a Senate-confirmed director is critical to giving the agency the tools and resources to carry out its mission and enforce our nation's laws.

Mr. Dettelbach's leadership and commitment to fighting crime to safeguard communities is not only commendable but is unfalteringly aligned with the mission and values that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives prides themselves on.

Sincerely,

David LaBahn  
President/CEO  
Association of Prosecuting Attorneys