

**Prepared Statement by Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Executive Business Meeting
Thursday, January 22, 2015**

You know, we've worked together here on the Senate Judiciary Committee for more than three decades. Together, we share nearly 75 years of legislative and oversight experience in the U.S. Senate. We've each served in the Majority and in the Minority. Along the way, we've learned a thing or two about making public policy. And we've also grown thick skins.

That may come in handy over the next two years. We may be called names from time to time, but "greenhorn" won't be among them.

I look forward to working with all of the members. I'll try hard to find common ground. And we will. We've already had some bipartisan success with the Administration's new announcement regarding Civil Asset Forfeiture. It's no secret that many of the controversial issues of the day are centered in this committee. There will be some partisan battles ahead. But, I pledge to have an open door, and will do my best to be fair. I like every member of this committee. As I've said before, if you don't like me, I don't want to know about it.

So, thank you Chairman Leahy, for your service as a long time Chairman and member. I appreciate your commitment and dedication to this committee and for your work to make the committee function, do its job, and be productive.

I would like to welcome everyone to the first business meeting of the year. I especially want to welcome our three new members, Senator Vitter, Senator Perdue and Senator Tillis. I look forward to working with you and welcome you to the Committee.

As the first business meeting of a new Congress, we have some organizational business to attend to. First, the rules proposal has some changes from the rules we had previously. We have more members than we have had, so there are new rules for a quorum and on voting. The rules have been circulated.

The next order of business is to adopt the Subcommittees and Membership. We have returned to six Subcommittees. The Bankruptcy and Courts Subcommittee is being recombined with the Oversight, Federal Rights and Agency Action Subcommittee. It will now be the Oversight, Agency Action, Federal Rights and Federal Courts Subcommittee. The Subcommittees have been circulated.

Finally, we need to approve an authorizing resolution for our Committee funding. Senator Leahy and I have agreed to the resolution.

Regarding the nominations, we have four nominees on the agenda today: two US Marshals

– Ronald Lee Miller is nominated to be United States Marshal for the District of Kansas; and,

- Michael Greco is nominated to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of New York.

Also on the agenda is Michael P. Botticelli to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.

And Jeanne E. Davidson, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

I believe we're prepared to voice vote the two Marshals today. I'd note that we will have some questions for Mr. Miller, the nominee to be United States Marshal for the District of Kansas. We'll expect to get responses from him to those questions before his nomination is brought up on the floor.

With that understanding, we can move him out of committee today.

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