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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

West Huddleston

May 18, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

On behalf of the over 22,000 judges, prosecutors, public defenders, probation and law enforcement officers, court administrators, substance abuse and mental health treatment professionals, and community leaders the National Association of Drug Court Professionals represents, it gives me great pride to strongly support the nomination of Acting Assistant Attorney General Laurie Robinson for the position Assistant Attorney General.

Throughout her career, Acting Assistant Attorney General Robinson has lead multiple innovative initiatives, from an array of positions as a dedicated public servant, and as a distinguished scholar to improve our criminal justice system and our communities.

In fact, as Director of the Masters in Criminology Program at the University of Pennsylvania, in a statement before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, Ms. Robinson makes clear her credence for the use of federal dollars to help localities to implement proven effect pilot programs, which, as the success of the program is established and evident, these jurisdictions willingly take the responsibility of funding the continuation of the program. Ms. Robinson goes on to affirm that "drug courts are a good example of this phenomenon." Also, as Director of the American Bar Association's Section of Criminal Justice, Laurie Robinson founded the American Bar Association's Juvenile Justice Center.

The Acting Assistant Attorney General has worked relentlessly throughout her career and pioneered numerous innovative approaches, to increase and improve the function of our criminal justice system, and has helped us to better understand the link between humanity and criminal justice. Laurie Robinson understands that a strong relationship between accountability, enforcement, and treatment, along with administrative structures and efficient expenditure of federal dollars, are key components to abolishing the drug epidemic in this country.

The nomination of Laurie Robinson presents an opportunity for the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy to stem the tide of substance abuse and crime by implementing a policy that incorporates accountability, enforcement, prevention and treatment. Acting Assistant Attorney General Robinson is the right choice to develop and execute this policy and her expedient confirmation is soundly endorsed by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. Thank you for your continued leadership and for considering this letter of support.

Best Regards,

C. West Huddleston, III
Chief Executive Officer
And Executive Director



May 28, 2009

Senator Patrick Leahy
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

I understand that Ms. Laurie Robinson has been nominated as Assistant Attorney General responsible for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). It would be hard to find a more capable or appropriate individual to fill that position. As you undoubtedly know, she was most effective in managing that program during the Clinton administration. That was a time when crime rates were very high, taxing the skills and resources of the nation's criminal justice system. As a result, it was a time when the resources that had to be managed increased significantly, and there is considerable evidence that those resources were applied with great skill in ways that were demonstrably cost-effective. As a result, while there is still a long way to go, the technical and managerial skills of the nation's criminal justice system improved considerably and we saw a major drop in crime rates. Obviously, Ms. Robinson deserves considerable credit for those accomplishments.

One of the difficult challenges facing the OJP director is managing a coherent program with at least five presidential appointees reporting to her. One of the impressive features of Ms. Robinson's term was the significant degree to which she was able to maintain coherent and innovative programs within the Office. I knew most of those presidential appointees and they clearly demonstrated cooperation with each other and with their supervisor. This was particularly impressive in NIJ and BJS, which had statutory independence, but nevertheless their directors worked closely with Ms. Robinson to achieve common goals. That independence was surreptitiously lifted in 2001, and still did not come close to achieving the effectiveness that characterized Laurie Robinson's earlier management. I would hope that the Congress would restore that independence to those two agencies because it is such an important feature of maintaining the integrity of their programs and products. I understand that Ms. Robinson would be fully supportive of that restoration.

When she left OJP at the end of the Clinton administration, Ms. Robinson has been very effective in addressing criminal justice needs in other settings. She has worked as a senior scholar in the criminology program at the University of Pennsylvania, and in 2004 she initiated and has since directed the Master of Science program for their criminology department. She has also been involved in a variety of other activities related to criminal justice. For example, until she returned to the Justice Department, she

chaired the board overseeing the Vera Institute, a major research and innovation institution located in New York City.

In view of the complexities of the many programs in OJP, she was recruited by the Obama administration to serve as acting director of OJP to keep the program moving forward in the right direction. This was particularly important in view of the sizable stimulus package that had to be managed by OJP. Even in the short time she has been there, OJP has been far more effective than it would have been without her. Indeed, many of us who care about that program's performance are most grateful that Ms. Robinson has reconsidered her original intention to be there for only a short time.

It is clear that the nation's criminal justice system will be extremely well served by the competence, experience, and esteem that characterize Laurie Robinson. I strongly urge you and the Judiciary Committee to move quickly to approve her nomination and to ensure effective management of this important function.

I hope these comments are helpful in considering her case. Please feel free to call on me if I can provide any additional information. For your background I am enclosing a brief biographical statement.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alfred Blumstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Alfred Blumstein

ALFRED BLUMSTEIN

ALFRED BLUMSTEIN is a University Professor and the J. Erik Jonsson Professor of Urban Systems and Operations Research and former Dean (from 1986 to 1993) at the H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management of Carnegie Mellon University.

He has had extensive experience in both research and policy with the criminal justice system since serving the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice in 1966-67 as Director of its Task Force on Science and Technology.

Dr. Blumstein was a member of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Research on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice from its founding in 1975 until 1986. He served as Chairman of that committee between 1979 and 1984, and has chaired the committee's panels on Research on Deterrent and Incapacitative Effects, on Sentencing Research, and on Research on Criminal Careers. He was a member of the Academy's Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education from 1994-2000. In 1998, he was elected to membership in the National Academy of Engineering.

On the policy side, Dr. Blumstein served from 1979 to 1990 as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the state's criminal justice planning agency. He served on the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing from 1986-96.

His degrees from Cornell University include a Bachelor of Engineering Physics and a Ph.D. in Operations Research. He was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York. He was awarded the 2007 Stockholm Prize in Criminology.

He was President of the Operations Research Society of America (ORSA) in 1977-78, he was awarded its Kimball Medal "for service to the profession and the society" in 1985, and its President's Award in 1993 "for service to society." He was president of the Institute of Management Sciences (TIMS) in 1987-88 and was President of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) in 1996. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and INFORMS, and he served as President of COSSA (the Consortium of Social Science Associations) in 1998-2000.

Dr. Blumstein is a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology, was the 1987 recipient of the Society's Sutherland Award for "contributions to research," and was the president of the Society in 1991-92. At the 1998 meeting of the ASC, he was presented with the Wolfgang Award for Distinguished Achievement in Criminology.

His research over the past twenty years has covered many aspects of criminal-justice phenomena and policy, including crime measurement, criminal careers, sentencing, deterrence and incapacitation, prison population, demographic trends, juvenile violence, and drug policy.



international organization for victim assistance

Marlene A. Young, PhD, JD

President

32465 NE Old Parrett Mountain Road
Newberg, Oregon, USA

May 28, 2009

Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Jeff Sessions, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions,

I write to express our enthusiastic support for the nomination of Laurie O. Robinson as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

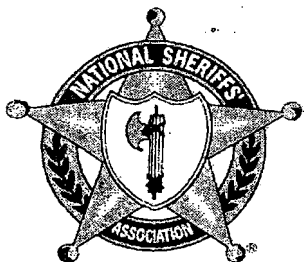
I have known Ms. Robinson since the late 1970s, when she was the staff director of the Criminal Justice Section of the American Bar Association. There she was as much an instigator of policy ideas as she was an administrator of the section's policy positions. The bar association gained widening respect for the polite activism she fomented across many criminal justice policy areas. We in the incipient victims' movement were especially appreciative of her embracing our vision of victim rights and services, and fostering their advancement not only among her own constituents but among others in the organized criminal justice community, of which she became a respected colleague.

In her previous tenure in the same post for which she is now the nominee, Ms. Robinson sustained her traditional practice of thoughtful, probing rethinking of how criminal justice should be administered. In the main, her work in the arena of victims' rights and services significantly advanced its progress. When, on occasion, we and our colleagues disagreed with a policy idea she was considering, she welcomed our views with uncommon civility, ultimately reinforcing the deep respect she has earned in our sector of the justice system.

The crime victims' movement here and abroad has been aided in extraordinary ways by a few gifted public administrators in the U.S. Government. That movement would be profoundly appreciative to see one of those champions returned to office, and we urge you and your colleagues to make that happen.

Sincerely,

Marlene A. Young, Ph.D., J.D.
President



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

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May 29, 2009

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chair
The Honorable Jeff Sessions, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the over 3,000 elected sheriffs nationwide, we are writing to express our strong support for the nomination of Laurie O. Robinson to be the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), United States Department of Justice (DOJ). We respectfully request that you confirm her nomination without delay.

The Office of Justice Programs is one of the most significant offices within the federal government to state and local law enforcement agencies. Predominately, funding for vital state and local law enforcement programs, such as Byrne-JAG and SCAAP, is administered through OJP. Therefore, the individual tasked with overseeing this critical office must understand how valuable OJP is to state and local law enforcement agencies across the country.

Ms. Robinson is the ideal candidate for this important position. Not only does she understand OJP's significance to state and local law enforcement, but she is one of the main reasons why OJP is so highly esteemed. Under former President William Jefferson Clinton, Ms. Robinson served as the Assistant Attorney General for OJP from 1993 until 2000. While previously leading this Office, the appropriations substantially expanded from \$800 million in 1993 to over \$4 billion in 2000, thus increasing the essential funding available for state and local law enforcement.

Furthermore, as the former Assistant Attorney General, Ms. Robinson led initiatives focusing on a variety of issues within the criminal justice system, from law enforcement, corrections, combating violence against women, and curbing drug abuse throughout the United States. In 1998, she was also instrumental in establishing a domestic terrorism preparedness office within OJP to provide training and funding to state and local first responders. Little could she know then, that in the coming years, such training and funding for first responders would become extraordinarily essential.

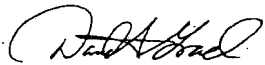
The National Sheriffs' Association has had the distinct privilege of working with Ms. Robinson, while she was the former Assistant Attorney General and while she currently serves as the Acting Assistant Attorney General. We have been continually impressed

with not only her extensive experience and qualification, but of her willingness to meet with sheriffs and address any concerns they have regarding programs within OJP.

As the Assistant Attorney General for OJP, under Attorney General Holder, NSA is confident that Ms. Robinson will continue to fully support critical state and local law enforcement programs, further fostering the relationship between sheriffs and OJP and enabling sheriffs to continue to protect and serve their communities throughout the United States.

As one of the largest law enforcement organizations in the nation, the National Sheriffs' Association is calling upon the United States Senate to swiftly confirm Laurie O. Robinson as the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

Respectfully,



Sheriff David A. Goad
President



Aaron D. Kennard
Executive Director



June 1, 2009

Honorable Patrick Leahy
Honorable Jeff Sessions
United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators represents the 56 state agencies that administer the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) state victim assistance formula grants. As such, our members are responsible for the management of hundreds of millions of dollars that are dedicated to support direct assistance services to victims of all types of crimes. Each year, state VOCA victim assistance funds provide critical help to some four million crime victims, including victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, drunk driving, survivors of homicide victims and all other types of crimes.

Our Association and its members have worked very closely with the Office for Victims of Crimes which is a component of the Office of Justice Programs. In that capacity, NAVAA most heartily supports the confirmation of Laurie Robinson to be Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

We have been proud to have known and worked with Ms. Robinson since her first tenure in this position. She has more than demonstrated her professional qualifications to once again provide vital Federal leadership and vision for our nation's criminal justice system. She has been especially attuned to the importance of providing support and assistance to crime victims, recognizing not only their critical role in the proper functioning of the criminal justice system, but our government's basic commitment that crime victims should be treated with fairness, dignity and respect. It is especially notable that Ms. Robinson always ensured that issues of importance to crime victims were thoroughly considered throughout the Office of Justice Programs.

We are especially pleased that Ms. Robinson recognizes that the success of OJP depends greatly upon the cooperation and collaboration of all components and interests involved in public safety programs and to establish partnerships with all constituencies at the Federal, State, local and tribal levels. Since returning to OJP, first as part of the transition team and as Acting Assistance Attorney General, Ms. Robinson has continued her practice initiated during her first tenure to actively reach out to and communicate with all OJP stakeholders, including representatives of crime victim organizations. She has convened numerous meetings that are truly "listening" sessions that she uses to solicit input and ideas in the formulation of effective, evidence-based programs and policies.

Of special interest to our Association, Ms. Robinson has been a strong and forceful defender of the Crime Victims Fund which provides the revenues to support VOCA-funded services to crime victims. Her support of the non-taxpayer financed Crime Victims Fund is especially notable in contrast to the attempts in recent years to entirely eliminate the Fund balances and transfer those amounts into the General Treasury, thereby depriving crime victims of the essential resources that Congress, for the past 25 years, dedicated solely for the use of crime victim services.

Hon. Patrick Leahy
Hon. Jeff Session
June 1, 2009
Page 2

We are confident that with Attorney General Holder and Laurie Robinson's leadership, we can look forward to working together to continue improving rights and services for crime victims.

We enthusiastically urge the Committee to recommend and the Senate to confirm Ms. Robinson's appointment as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Derene', with a stylized, flowing script.

Steve Derene
Executive Director

June 1, 2009

Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

This letter is to support the nomination of **Laurie O. Robinson** to serve as Assistant Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice.

You have gotten other correspondence about her qualifications and career service so I will not repeat any of that here.

I have known Laurie professionally since 1994 when I was on loan to the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) from the California Youth Authority. She was responsible for implementing the far ranging Crime Act and I was the OVC representative assigned to work with her. In all of my dealings with her, she was professional, smart, and sensitive to the tri-service areas of crime victims, offender programming and accountability, and community safety.

As the survivor of a homicide victim (my 84 year old mother) and an ardent crime victim advocate, I am often highly critical of government appointees because too often they pay 'lip service' to victimization issues and then do not do anything.

That is not true of Laurie Robinson however; we can count on her to support further progress in the crime victim field which she championed during her last tour of DOJ/OJP duty.

If there are any questions, feel free to contact me at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sincerely

Sharon J. English

cc. Laurie Robinson



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

Senator Patrick Leahy
433 Russell Senate Office Bldg
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

June 2, 2009

Dear Senator Leahy:

I write as president of the American Society of Criminology, at the request of its Executive Board and on behalf of its 2,500 members, to urge you to act quickly in confirming the nomination of Acting Assistant Attorney General Laurie Robinson, to direct the Office of Justice Programs (OJP).

The Office of Justice Programs has several important functions. It promotes innovation in crime and justice through its grant program in support of new state and local justice initiatives. It advances the scientific foundation for crime and justice policy by funding important studies on crime and justice and by disseminating their results nationally. It serves as convener for policy makers, providing a crucial linchpin between the practice of criminal justice and the knowledge base being built by the scientific community. In so doing, it ensures that new state and local policies are based upon a growing foundation commonly called "what works." In short, OJP is the federal government's support system for new developments in crime and justice in state and local criminal justice systems. While good work is currently moving forward, the full effect of OJP's leadership in crime and justice initiatives cannot be felt until all of its presidentially appointed directors are confirmed. Confirmation of the OJP Assistant Attorney General is the necessary first step in assembling a full leadership team for the Office of Justice Programs, because the presidential nominations for heads of various OJP offices must await the confirmation of its director.

There is nobody whose experience and proven capabilities provide a better foundation for leading the OJP today than Laurie Robinson. She is a distinguished criminologist who has served admirably as a leading policy maker and reformer in a long list of roles, including heading the American Bar Association's (ABA) Criminal Justice Section (for 14 years) and founding its Juvenile Justice Center. Her leadership in the ABA enabled her to shape policy development in all aspects of criminal justice, from policing to corrections. It is fair to say that there is no important national-level reform in criminal justice in the last 25 years about which she has not had at least some role.

She brought this strong record of applied policy leadership to the Office of Justice Programs within the Justice Department during the Clinton administration. While there, she helped establish the Office on Violence Against Women and provided crucial leadership in the national movement toward drug- and problem-solving courts. Under her stewardship, the OJP



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

enjoyed an unprecedented reputation for scientifically-supported policy making. This has meant ~~the~~ she enjoys strong support from the practitioners in the field and academics, alike.

Even while serving in her acting role, AAG (designee) Robinson has proven herself the right person for this job. She has already shown inspired leadership in the way she has brought a diversity of stakeholders together to engage in broad discussions of OJP priorities, and her work to date heralds a new era of strategic justice policy leadership at the federal level. In just a few short months she has begun to pave the way for revitalization of cooperative work between the federal justice programs and initiatives at the state and local levels, and she has already strengthened the foundation for high-quality, high-impact crime and justice research.

I urge you to act quickly to make her permanent, so that the Office of Justice Programs can turn its full attention to its agenda of effectiveness in criminal justice.

Sincerely yours,

Todd R. Clear
President, 2008-2009

Distinguished Professor
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
The City University of New York



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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Virginia Beach, Virginia
Washington, DC
Winnipeg, Manitoba

June 2, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Messrs. Leahy and Sessions:

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs, representing the 56 largest jurisdictions across the Nation, I am writing to support the nomination of Laurie Robinson to become Assistant Attorney General; she deserves swift confirmation by the Senate.

Ms. Robinson has been Acting Assistant Attorney General since the early days of the Administration and we are pleased that President Obama has nominated her to take this job permanently. The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) is a critical link between the law enforcement community and DOJ and we applaud her efforts to enhance and strengthen the criminal justice system.

This will not be Ms. Robinson's first time at DOJ. During her first stint at the Justice Department, Ms. Robinson ably led OJP and built strong relationships with state and local law enforcement. We welcome her back and look forward to working with her again.

American law enforcement has always looked to you for leadership and we again turn to you to move the nomination of Laurie Robinson quickly through the confirmation process.

Sincerely,

William J. Bratton
Chief of Police
President, Major Cities Chiefs

June 3, 2009

Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

I am writing to join the esteemed individuals and organizations that have written to you in support of the President's nomination of Laurie Robinson to the position of Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Unlike other supporters, my endorsement of Mrs. Robinson's nomination is based on firsthand knowledge of her leadership, and management skills and abilities. I served in a career Senior Executive Service position at the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Program during her tenure as Assistant Attorney General during the Clinton Administration.

As Assistant Attorney General, Mrs. Robinson demonstrated the highest standards of public service, competence, and integrity beyond reproach. A savvy visionary and demanding public servant, Mrs. Robinson took the agency to new levels of achievement and respect based on three simple principles: listen to those who rely on the mission of the agency; listen to the priorities of the President and Congress; and engage the employees in meaningful participation in executing policy and programs and respect their institutional knowledge and dedication to public service. Her experience at the American Bar Association proved integral to her commitment to cutting-edge programs and new technologies to improve criminal justice policy and programming.

In her role as coordinator of the five statutorily mandated agencies – the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime, Laurie Robinson saw and encouraged opportunities for collaboration among these critical criminal justice prevention and intervention functions of the agency. She also identified opportunities for broader collaboration across the Department of Justice, e.g., the Bureau of Prisons, the Executive Office of United States Attorneys, the Office on Violence Against Women, the Criminal Division, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and also with the various nongovernmental criminal justice organizations.

Carolyn Hightower

June 3, 2009

Page two

By confirming her for the position of Assistant Attorney General, you have an opportunity to bring demonstrated leadership back to the Office of Justice Programs, and get the criminal justice priorities of the country moving forward in the right direction at a rapid pace. I believe Laurie Robinson possesses the right blend of knowledge, integrity, compassion, and leadership to restore the public's confidence in the criminal justice programs administered by the Office of Justice Programs. I encourage you to move rapidly to confirm her as Assistant Attorney General.

Sincerely,

Carolyn A. Hightower

National Crime Victim Assistance and Allied Justice Organizations

June 8, 2009

Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

The nomination of **Laurie O. Robinson** to serve as Assistant Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice has strong support from a broad coalition of national crime victim assistance and allied justice organizations. Throughout an entire career devoted to justice and public safety, Ms. Robinson has consistently supported innovations that promote better treatment of crime victims, beginning in the 1980s during her tenure as Director of the American Bar Association's Section on Criminal Justice, and continuing through her previous tenure as AAG for the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs from 1993 to 2000, and as a Distinguished Senior Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Criminology.

During her tenure as AAG at the Office of Justice Programs, she was a staunch supporter of crime victims' rights and services, and was diligent in ensuring that crime victim issues were addressed across all OJP Bureaus and Offices. For example, she offered her continuing support for the National Crime Victimization Survey conducted annually by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, which manifested itself in arguing for appropriations to sustain and expand the survey to address emerging victimization issues. Representatives from the State agencies administering federal funding always appreciated her efforts to enlist their ideas as OJP developed new regulations, policies and programs that affected their state efforts.

Ms Robinson is not only a remarkable leader, but also a strong "team player." At OJP, she routinely convened meetings to gather input from the field regarding emerging issues that should be addressed by the agency in its strategic planning. We appreciated that in all these efforts, she clearly demonstrated the value that she placed on the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) by including the office's leadership in these meetings, and in her meetings with officials in the Office of the Attorney General and in other components of the Department. Ms. Robinson emphasized the importance of accountability for all OJP Offices and Bureaus in using their appropriated funds to support innovations in crime victim services and programming. Perhaps most important, she joined the OVC Director in recognizing and promoting the significance of the Crime Victims Fund, and how decisions to limit resources available in this Fund would have an adverse affect on State and Local program efforts.

Laurie Robinson has not only our strong support, but also our admiration for her ongoing commitment to always including crime victims, survivors and those who serve them in her efforts to promote justice and public safety. We encourage her confirmation by the U.S. Senate so she can continue to provide the vision and leadership that has been a hallmark of her career.

Sincerely,

Organizations

Association of Prosecuting Attorneys
ATTIC Correctional Services, Inc.
Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance
The Damian Corrente Memorial Youth Foundation
Denver District Attorney's Office
IllinoisVictims.org
International Organization for Victim Assistance
Justice Solutions, Inc.
Mary Byron Project
Maryland Crime Victims Resource Center
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence (Monika Johnson Hostler, President)
National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards
National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators
National Coalition of Victims in Action
National Crime Victim Law Institute
National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center
National District Attorneys Association
National Organization for Victim Assistance
National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children
National Organization of Victims of Juvenile Lifers
Renee Olubunmi Rondeau Peace Foundation
Security On Campus, Inc.
Survivors Network, Michigan

Individuals

Rachel Atkinson, Community Activist, Agawam, MI
Janet Burt, Detroit, MI
Sharon English, National Victim Advocate, San Clemente, CA
Anne Seymour, National Victim Advocate, Washington, DC
Pamela Pupi, Survivor and Advocate
Gail Burns Smith, National Victim Advocate, Connecticut

Individual/Organizational Letters

International Organization for Victim Assistance
Security on Campus
Denver District Attorney's Office
Sharon J. English
Carolyn A. Hightower
Anne Seymour



Security On Campus, Inc.

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e-mail: soc@securityoncampus.org

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June 8, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

As advocates for safer college campuses and crime victims' rights we were very pleased to see that Laurie O. Robinson has been nominated to serve as Assistant Attorney General and urge her prompt confirmation.

During her prior tenure as Assistant Attorney General, from 1993 to 2000, the leadership she demonstrated brought about significant improvements in crime research, crime prevention, and crime victim assistance. Also, her time at the U.S. Department of Justice saw the first significant review of and response to campus violence issues, including violence against women. That work continues to have a positive impact to this day.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kassa
Executive Director

S. Daniel Carter
Director of Public Policy

c.c.: Sen. Arlen Specter

MITCHELL R. MORRISSEY

District Attorney
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Steve Siegel

Director of Program Development



State of Colorado

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
DENVER

201 West Colfax Avenue
Dept. 801
Denver, CO 80202-5328
720-913-9022
Fax 720-913-9913

June 8, 2009

Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

It is my honor to offer my support to the nomination of Laurie Robinson for the position of Assistant Attorney General. In my thirty two years of public service in the criminal justice field, there have been few who have shown the range and depth of content mastery of Ms. Robinson. At this time in our history, the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs is critical to national, state and local efforts to address crime and victimization. Laurie Robinson possesses the knowledge, experience, compassion and passion to lead us forward.

My father-in-law spent his life in government service and would always preach to me that the source of great leadership was the insight to view the large picture and the ability to roll up your sleeves and work within the realities of the populous. I believe that is an apt description of your nominee. A successful justice system in our complex world is reliant on forging new and creative partnerships and collaborations. Simply put, Laurie "gets that!"

I have been fortunate in my career to oversee projects that range from crime victims rights, to offender rehabilitation and restorative community justice, to DNA technology, and to witness protection and crime prevention. Laurie Robinson understands these issues (and more), expects excellence and facilitates those around her to be the best that they can be. What more would we want in this important national leadership position?

In closing, let me reiterate that your support of Laurie Robinson's nomination is the right thing for this country at a time of great challenge and opportunity. I am available for any questions that you may have of me. Thank you for your consideration.

Very Truly Yours, •

Steve Siegel

Steven R. Siegel
Director, Special Programs Unit

Anne K. Seymour
National Crime Victim Advocate



June 9, 2009

Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

It gives me great pleasure to offer my support for the nomination of **Laurie O. Robinson** to serve as Assistant Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP).

As evidenced by the strong, collective support for Ms. Robinson from the crime victim assistance field, she is the ideal person to provide vision and leadership at OJP. I have had the pleasure of knowing her, personally and professionally, for over 20 years. Her understanding of and commitment to issues that affect the rights and needs of crime victims and survivors are exemplary. And her career-long outreach to victims and those who serve them as "team players" in criminal and juvenile justice is much appreciated by our field.

I urge your Committee and the U.S. Senate to confirm Laurie O. Robinson as soon as possible, as there is much work to do *right now* to promote victims' rights, justice and public safety.

I appreciate your consideration of my recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Seymour".

ANNE SEYMOUR
National Victim Advocate

JUSTICE★CENTER

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Collaborative Approaches to Public Safety

June 12, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary
United States Senate
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

On behalf of the Council of State Governments Justice Center board of directors—leaders of a national organization that serves policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels from all branches of government to increase public safety and strengthen communities—we are writing to urge you to approve the nomination of Laurie Robinson to the position of Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

Ms. Robinson has been a national leader on crime policy for decades. Whether serving as Assistant Attorney General, directing the Jerry Lee Center on Criminology at the University of Pennsylvania, or leading crime policy efforts for the American Bar Association, she has enjoyed broad support among local law enforcement executives, court officials, corrections administrators, and victim advocates. She is so respected because she possesses an extraordinary combination of skills and experiences, which uniquely position her to lead the Office of Justice Programs.

First, she has consistently demonstrated a commitment to data-driven, evidence-based policies. She resists promoting policy that might “sound good,” insisting on rigorous evaluation of policies and programs to measure their effectiveness. At the same time, she recognizes that state and local governments cannot wait years on end for a multi-year, longitudinal study, and she works tirelessly to ensure practical information gets in the hands of policymakers and practitioners that they can use quickly to deal with today’s challenges. Indeed, she recognizes that the federal government is most helpful to state and local governments when it tests ideas and promotes what works in real-world terms.

Second, she has always appreciated that every state and county criminal justice system is different and that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to crime-fighting. When she previously headed OJP, she made sure its agencies were equally responsive to large urban areas and small rural counties and took the time to understand the distinct organization and roles of authorities from one county to another.

Third, she understands that enduring crime policy should be consensus-based and enjoy broad bipartisan support. Even when running a multi-billion dollar agency, she was always accessible and down-to-earth, and went to great lengths to listen to the perspectives diverse stakeholders and worked hard to address their comments.

Fourth, understanding that state and local government agencies interface with multiple agencies at OJP, Ms. Robinson always made it a priority to ensure coordination among the grant programs that BJA administered, the research NIJ spearheaded, the data BJS collected and analyzed, the juvenile-focused work OJJDP coordinated, and the efforts OVC led to assist victims.

JUSTICE★CENTER

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Collaborative Approaches to Public Safety

As elected and appointed state officials, we know that it will take someone with vision, an ability to navigate partisan politics, a comprehensive understanding of the issues, and a successful management style to direct OJP. Ms. Robinson has demonstrated these abilities time and again.

We thank you for considering the views of state legislators, judicial leaders, and executive branch officials as you decide the appointment of the next Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

Sincerely,

Pat Colloton

Rep. Pat Colloton (R-KS)

Chair, Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Justice Center Executive Committee Member



National District Attorneys Association
44 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 110, Alexandria, Virginia 22314
703.549.9222 / 703.863.3195 Fax
www.ndaa.org

June 15, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

On behalf of the National District Attorneys Association, the oldest and largest organization representing over 39,000 of America's state and local prosecutors, we offer our full support for the nomination of Laurie O. Robinson to become the next Assistant Attorney General/Principal Deputy Attorney General within the United States Department of Justice.

Ms. Robinson's past work experience within the Department of Justice has allowed her to develop and maintain strong relationships with the state and local criminal justice professionals who work closely with DOJ, including outstanding working relationships with state and local prosecutors. Ms. Robinson previously served as Assistant Attorney General at the Office of Justice Programs from 1993 to 2000, where she oversaw the largest increase in federal spending on criminal justice research in the nation's history. During this time, she also spearheaded a number of initiatives in areas ranging from comprehensive community-based crime control to violence against women, law enforcement technology, drug abuse and corrections. At a time where close collaboration between federal, state and local criminal justice professionals is crucial for America's continued safety, Ms. Robinson has proven she understands the importance and value of working as partners with state and local criminal justice professionals.

The National District Attorneys Association believes that Ms. Robinson would be an outstanding addition to Attorney General Holder's staff in the Department of Justice. We are happy to offer our full support for Ms. Robinson's nomination to serve as Assistant Attorney General/Principal Deputy Attorney General and encourage her swift nomination by the Senate.

Sincerely,

Joseph I. Cassilly
President



DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS
RENAISSANCE PLAZA AT 350 JAY STREET
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11201-2908

CHARLES J. HYNES
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

July 14, 2009

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
United States Senator, Vermont
Chair, United States Committee
on the Judiciary
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

I know you have previously recalled that at the direction of my boss, Brooklyn District Attorney Gene Gold, I assisted you with the investigation of a drug dealer in your jurisdiction when you were the Chittenden County District Attorney. Incidentally, Gene is well and he sends you his best wishes.

I am writing to you to express my strong support for Senate confirmation of Laurie Robinson to the office of Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

By way of my background, in 1989 I was elected Brooklyn District Attorney. I am serving my fifth term and this year I will run unopposed for re-election. Presently, I am a Vice President of the National Association of District Attorneys and, in addition, I am Chair-elect of the Criminal Justice Section, American Bar Association.

I first met Ms. Robinson when she served as Assistant Attorney General in the Office of Justice Programs under United States Attorney General Janet Reno. While the Attorney General, herself a former local prosecutor, set the standard for the Department of Justice and its interaction with local prosecutors, Laurie Robinson was extremely effective in executing that policy creating an unusual spirit of cooperation between federal and local authorities. I am sure you recall from your experiences as the Chittenden County District Attorney the tension

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
July 14, 2009
Page Two

between federal authorities and local prosecutors. Janet Reno and Laurie Robinson by contrast established a comfort level which unfortunately is rare among federal and local law enforcement agencies. I am particularly pleased that President Obama was able to persuade her to leave her position at the University of Pennsylvania to take this important policy post. I have initiated a great many alternatives to prosecution programs in Brooklyn, e.g. a residential drug treatment program (19 years in operation) and a re-entry program for the formerly incarcerated (for the last 9 years). It is my hope to collaborate with Ms. Robinson to implement and expand 2nd Chance initiatives for my Office and other prosecutors. I believe that Laurie Robinson will have a lasting impact on the face of Criminal Justice in this Country.

If I can in any other way helpful to the confirmation of Ms. Robinson please let me know.

Very truly yours,

Charles J. Hynes

CJH:mk



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS AFL-CIO

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

DENNIS J. SLOCUMB
*International Executive Vice-President
Legislative Affairs*

TIMOTHY A. SCOTT
International Secretary-Treasurer



September 8, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations (I.U.P.A.) representing more than 100,000 active-duty, rank and file law enforcement professionals across the nation, I am writing to urge your confirmation of Ms. Laurie O. Robinson to the position of Assistant Attorney General / Principal Deputy Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs.

We have worked with Ms. Robinson since she was the Assistant Attorney General from 1993 to 2000. During that period, as you recall, appropriations for the Office of Justice Programs grew from \$800 million to more than \$4 billion dollars. She provided leadership that resulted in initiatives which improved the performance of law enforcement in the areas of drug abuse, corrections, technology and violence against women.

She has remained active in the law enforcement community as the Director of the Master of Science Program in the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Criminology and as the Distinguished Senior Scholar in the University's Jerry Lee Center of Criminology. She was also the Executive Director of its Forum on Crime and Justice.

Apart from her professional credentials, the personal commitment Ms. Robinson brings to the Department of Justice should also weigh into your consideration. The I.U.P.A., in conjunction with the leaders of every other law enforcement group representing all facets of the police community, feels that we have a personal relationship with Ms. Robinson. We know that she can be easily reached when we have questions regarding the department or one of its many programs. Even when those issues fall outside the aegis of the Office of Justice Programs, she is always willing to steer us to the proper desk to answer our questions and address our concerns. She seeks our input and makes certain that we are kept abreast of programs and policies impacting our members.

We have thoroughly and sincerely enjoyed working with Ms. Robinson in her role as Acting Assistant Attorney General and look forward to continuing our mutually productive relationship with her when she is confirmed in that role. I am available to answer any questions that you or your staff may have concerning our support.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis Slocumb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dennis Slocumb
International Vice President



International Association of
Chiefs of Police

515 North Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-2357
Phone: 703-836-6767; 1-800-THE
IACP
Fax: 703-836-4543
Web: www.theiacp.org

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Chief of Police
Algonquin Police Department
Algonquin, IL

Immediate Past President
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Tallahassee, FL

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St. John Police Department
St. John, MO

General Chair Division of State and
Provincial Police
Colonel Mark A. Dunaski
Chief Minnesota State Patrol
Saint Paul, MN

Parliamentarian
Gary J. Schira
Chief of Police
Batavia Police Department
Batavia, IL

Executive Director
Daniel N. Rosenblatt
Alexandria, VA

Deputy Executive Director
Chief of Staff
James W. McMahon
Alexandria, VA

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

On behalf of the more than 22,000 members of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), I am pleased to inform you of our support for the nomination of Ms. Laurie Robinson to be Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). The IACP believes that Ms. Robinson's years of service have clearly demonstrated she has the qualifications and experience necessary to be an effective leader of the OJP.

Ms. Robinson's broad base of experience provides her with a unique perspective on criminal justice issues. During her service in this same position from 1993 to 2000, OJP programs grew substantially—from \$800 million in 1993 to over \$4 billion in 2000. This increase led to strong initiatives on community-based crime control, violence against women, and law enforcement technology.

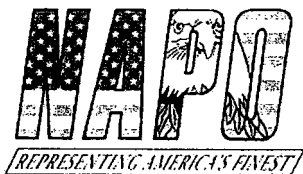
As a result, the IACP believes that, as Assistant Attorney General, Ms. Robinson's background will allow her to foster and enhance the crucial partnership among federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies.

The IACP urges you to confirm Ms. Robinson's nomination rapidly.

I look forward to your positive response to this request. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact the IACP at 703-647-7211.

Sincerely,

Russell B. Laine
President



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

317 South Patrick Street. ~ Alexandria, Virginia ~ 22314-3501

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www.napo.org ~ Email: info@napo.org

September 9, 2009

THOMAS J. NEE

*Boston Police
Patrolmen's Association*

MICHAEL J. PALLADINO

*Detectives' Endowment
Association of New York City*

MICHAEL McHALE

*Florida Police Benevolent
Association*

SEAN M. SMOOT

*Police Benevolent & Protective
Association of Illinois*

CHRIS COLLINS

*Las Vegas Police
Protective Association*

KEITH DUNN

*New Jersey State Policemen's
Benevolent Association*

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 241,000 rank-and-file law enforcement officers throughout the United States, I am writing to advise you of our endorsement of the nomination of Laurie O. Robinson for Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Department of Justice. Serving as Acting Assistant Attorney General/Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General since January 28, 2009, Ms. Robinson has played a crucial role in reestablishing the Department's relationship with its state and local law enforcement partners.

Ms. Robinson's success in bringing the state and local law enforcement and criminal justice communities to the table over the past year is evidence of the respect members of the community have for her and her work. Her extensive experience in the criminal justice field speaks for itself. She previously served as Assistant Attorney General for OJP from 1993-2000. Prior to joining the Department of Justice, she was the director of the American Bar Association's (ABA) Section of Criminal Justice for fourteen years, where she founded the ABA's Juvenile Justice Center and was responsible for policy development, working with Congress, and developing special projects in such areas as crime victims, prisons, and police procedures.

Before returning to the Department of Justice in January, Ms. Robinson served as a Distinguished Senior Scholar in the University of Pennsylvania's Jerry Lee Center of Criminology and as Executive Director of its Forum on Crime & Justice before establishing, and later directing, the University's first Criminology Master of Science Program in 2004.

NAPO strongly believes Ms. Robinson's distinguished career and institutional knowledge alone qualify her for the position of Assistant Attorney General for OJP, yet it is her collaborative relationship with NAPO and other state and local partners that we feel will be invaluable to the position. Therefore, we urge you to confirm the nomination of Laurie Robinson for Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or NAPO's Director of Governmental Affairs, Andrea Mournighan, at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director

NCJA National Criminal Justice Association

PRESIDENT

David O. Steingraber†

Executive Director
Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance

VICE PRESIDENT

Roland Mena†

Executive Director
Montana Board of Crime Control

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

David E. Jones†

Executive Director
North Carolina Governor's
Crime Commission

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Cabell C. Cropper†

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Maine Department of Public Safety

James Kane†

Executive Director
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Gary Kendell†

Director
Iowa Governor's Office of Drug
Control Policy

Christian Kervick

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Delaware Criminal Justice Council

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Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

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Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Jeanne Smith

Director
Division of Criminal Justice
CO Department of Public Safety

Thomas Weissmuller

Chief Judge
Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation

† denotes Executive Committee

September 10, 2009

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman
The Honorable Jeff Sessions, Ranking member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

We are very pleased to have this opportunity to express our enthusiastic support for Laurie Robinson for Assistant Attorney General. Members of the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) include the state, territorial and tribal chief executive officers of criminal justice agencies charged with managing federal, state, and tribal justice assistance resources as well as practitioners from all components of the criminal and juvenile justice systems. As an association and as the representatives of their individual jurisdictions, our members work closely with the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

Ms. Robinson, having served as Assistant Attorney General in the Clinton Administration, is well known to NCJA members. Throughout her prior tenure at the department, Ms. Robinson worked tirelessly to understand the needs and address the challenges facing state, local, and tribal criminal justice practitioners. She earned the deep respect of NCJA members for her knowledge of the issues, her unrelenting focus on measuring results and developing a body of evidence based practices, her ethical conduct in all matters particularly grants management, and her commitment to building partnerships across the criminal justice system.

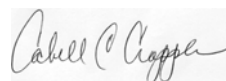
In her eight month tenure as Acting Assistant Attorney General, Ms. Robinson has shown that her commitment to these issues has not waned. From the first days of the Obama Administration, Ms. Robinson has devoted countless hours to engaging representatives of the criminal justice community in a dialogue about our nation's policy and funding priorities, seeking our input and offering her guidance. She has skillfully guided the implementation of the Recovery Act investment in the Byrne Justice Assistance and other grant programs. Her commitment to partnership is extraordinary and greatly appreciated.

Ms. Robinson has the confidence, trust and support of the state practitioners and, in our members' experience, of practitioners across the entire criminal justice spectrum nationwide. Her record, judgment, expertise, and commitment are unquestioned. We strongly urge her speedy confirmation.

Sincerely,



Roland Mena
President



Cabell Cropper
Executive Director



**NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF
BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVES**

HUBERT T. BELL, JR. OFFICE COMPLEX
4609 PINECREST OFFICE PARK DR. • SUITE F
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22312-1442
(703) 658-1529 • FAX: (703) 658-9479
Website: <http://www.noblenational.org>

September 10, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

I write as the Executive Director of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) to encourage you to take prompt action to confirm the nomination of Laurie O. Robinson as the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs in the U.S. Department of Justice.

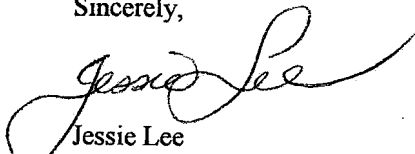
As you may know, NOBLE was established in 1976 and is dedicated to ensuring equity in the administration of justice in the provision of public service to all communities.

We have worked closely with Ms. Robinson since the time she served as Assistant Attorney General for OJP during the 1990s. We know her to be a strong ally of the law enforcement community and of the principles and goals that NOBLE espouses. As examples, she was instrumental in working on Department initiatives in the 1990s involving steps to improve relations between citizens and police as well as on improving crime victim assistance in minority communities.

Since she left the Justice Department in 2000, Ms. Robinson has continued to work closely with law enforcement. She has been an active member on the board of directors of the Police Foundation. Ms. Robinson knows the issues and can bring strong leadership to the federal government's partnership with state and local law enforcement.

We believe the Department of Justice and the American public will be well served by Ms. Robinson's confirmation. We strongly support the nomination of Laurie Robinson to be the next Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

Sincerely,



Jessie Lee
Executive Director

American Probation and Parole Association



APPA HEADQUARTERS
c/o The Council of State Governments
P.O. Box 11910
Lexington, KY 40578-1910
(859) 244-8203 • FAX: (859) 244-8001
appa@csg.org

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Carl Wicklund

September 11, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy and Senator Sessions:

I am submitting this letter in support of the confirmation of Laurie Robinson as the Assistant Attorney General (AAG) to oversee the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP).

During Ms. Robinson's previous tenure as AAG, she left a compelling and positive legacy for the staff and future directors of OJP. She uniquely raised the bar of excellence for future OJP directors. Currently (as Acting AAG) and in the past she has ensured cohesion and spirit of cooperation throughout OJP. The open and collegial manner in which she operates, and expects others within OJP to operate, is both refreshing and effective. She is universally respected and admired by OJP staff. Through her past leadership, OJP not only grew, but it became a major force for sound advice and incalculable aid while also being a driving force for good public policy and practice. She manages to seek solutions while not being overly prescriptive. She encourages an empowering rather than directive approach towards those that seek assistance from OJP. The justice community is vastly improved its effectiveness and humanitarianism through her current and past compassionate and intelligent leadership.

In the face of political pressures Ms. Robinson has encountered she has continually demonstrated the open door policy of a true public servant. She has not visibly let the political atmosphere poison her approach to others or the job. The Capitol Hill curse of aloofness and bitterness has never successfully cast its sinister spell on Ms. Robinson. She is gracious, approachable and down-to-earth. She represents OJP and the Department of Justice with grace and dignity while maintaining an open and welcoming spirit.

In closing I would only add that the people of the United States would be hard pressed to find a more appropriate candidate to direct the Office of Justice Programs.

Sincerely,

Carl Wicklund
Executive Director



National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, Inc.

President
Flo Stein
North Carolina

First Vice President
Tori Fernandez Whitney
District of Columbia

*Vice President
for Internal Affairs*
Onaje Salim
Georgia

*Vice President
for Treatment*
Kimberly Beniquez
Delaware

*Vice President
for Prevention*
Craig PoVey
Utah

*Immediate
Past President*
Barbara Cimaglio
Vermont

President -NDIIC
Stephenie Colston
Florida

Secretary
Michael Botticelli
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Karen M. Carpenter-Palumbo
New York

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Karen M. Carpenter-Palumbo, NY
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Region III
Donna Hillman, KY
Region IV
Diana Williams, IN
Region V
Terri L. White, OK
Region VI
Mark Stringer, MO
Region VII
JoAnne Hoesel, ND
Region VIII
Renée Zito, CA
Region IX
Bethany Gadzinski, ID
Region X

Interim Executive Director
Robert I. L. Morrison

September 11, 2009

Senator Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Jeff Sessions
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

On behalf of the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD), and our component organizations the National Prevention Network (NPN), and National Treatment Network (NTN), thank you for your leadership on the Senate Judiciary Committee. We appreciate your work and stand ready to continue our partnership on issues within the Committee's jurisdiction.

We are writing to express our full support of the nomination of Ms. Laurie O. Robinson to serve as the Assistant Attorney General at the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) within the Department of Justice (DOJ). We are hopeful that the Committee will soon consider this important nomination and recommend action that will lead to a quick confirmation process.

Ms. Robinson has considerable experience with the criminal justice system. Currently Ms. Robinson serves as the Acting Assistant Attorney General/Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General at the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). From 1993 to 2000, Ms. Robinson served as Assistant Attorney General at OJP where she helped effectively manage federal funding for criminal justice programs—including community-based drug treatment programs for criminal justice populations.

In addition to her extensive federal experience with the criminal justice system, Ms. Robinson has considerable public sphere and academic experience with the criminal justice system. Ms. Robinson previously served as the director of the Master of Science Program in the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Criminology as well as a Distinguished Senior Scholar in the University's Jerry Lee Center of Criminology.

NASADAD is pleased to support Ms. Robinson's nomination and request quick action in order to confirm Ms. Robinson as the Assistant Attorney General at OJP. We believe Ms. Robinson's unique blend of federal and local experience—coupled with her demonstrated commitment to working with a variety of stakeholders to improve policies and programs—would help her be an excellent leader at OJP.

Again, thank you for your leadership. Should you or your staff have any questions or require additional information, do not hesitate to contact me or Barbara Durkin, NASADAD Senior Policy Analyst, at 202-293-0090.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert I.L. Morrison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more legible than the last name "Morrison".

Robert I.L. Morrison
Interim Executive Director



September 11, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
SD-224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
SR-334 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

I understand you will soon be conducting a hearing on the nomination of Laurie O. Robinson to be the Assistant Attorney General at the Office of Justice Programs.

On behalf of the National Association of Counties (NACo), I am very pleased to express NACo's strong support for Laurie Robinson's appointment to this most important position. NACo first worked with Laurie during the fourteen years she served as Director of the American Bar Association's Section of Criminal Justice, and following that as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs in the Clinton Administration. In all of these positions, she performed magnificently with superb judgment.

Laurie would bring great intelligence and much intellectual and practical experience to this important policy position.

In addition to being a magna cum laude graduate of Brown University and a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Laurie is a very advanced student of county, municipal and state government. Since 2004 she has been the director of the Master of Science Program in the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Criminology. She has also served as a Distinguished Senior Scholar in the University's Jerry Lee Center of Criminology.

In short I recommend her in the very highest terms. She is by character, experience and intellect superbly qualified for this position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Larry E. Naake'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Larry E. Naake
Executive Director

To strengthen
and promote
cities as centers
of opportunity,
leadership, and
governance.



**National League
of Cities**

1301 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-1763

202-626-3000

Fax: 202-626-3043

www.nlc.org

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Executive Director

Donald J. Borut

September 11, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the 19,000 cities and towns represented by the National League of Cities (NLC), I am writing to express our unambiguous support for the nomination of Ms. Laurie O. Robinson to be the next Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice.

Ms. Robinson is no stranger to the Department of Justice having previously served in this capacity from 1993 – 2000. During her previous tenure with the Department, Ms. Robinson oversaw the largest increase in federal investment on criminal justice research. This research continues to play an important role in the crime prevention, intervention, and enforcement efforts of city officials all across the country.

Ms. Robinson's impressive track record of public service is further bolstered by her achievements in the criminal justice policy arena. Between 2001 and January 2009, she served as a Distinguished Senior Scholar in the University of Pennsylvania's Jerry Lee Center of Criminology, and as Executive Director of its Forum on Crime and Justice. In addition, in 2004, Ms. Robinson launched a Criminology Master of Science Program at the University, which she continued to direct until leaving to return to the Department of Justice earlier this year.

Before joining the Department of Justice in 1993, Ms. Robinson served for 14 years as the director of the American Bar Association's (ABA) Section of Criminal Justice, where she founded the ABA's Juvenile Justice Center and had responsibility for policy development, work with Congress, and special project development in areas such as crime victims, prisons, and police procedures.

Past Presidents: John DeStefano, Jr., Mayor, New Haven, Connecticut • **Brian J. O'Neill**, Councilman, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania **Directors:** John S. Brenner, Mayor, York, Pennsylvania • **Carl Brewer**, Mayor, Wichita, Kansas • **William G. "Bill" Brooks**, Mayor, Belle Isle, Florida • Jim Byard, Jr., Mayor, Prattville, Alabama • **Malcom Chapman**, Alderman, Rapid City, South Dakota • **Miguel M. Chavez**, Councilor/Mayor Pro Tem, Santa Fe, New Mexico • **Brad Cole**, Mayor, Carbondale, Illinois • **Mildred C. Crump**, Councilwoman at-Large, Newark, New Jersey • **Joseph A. Curtatone**, Mayor, Somerville, Massachusetts • **Joe Davis, Sr.**, Alderman, Milwaukee, Wisconsin • **Gretchen Driskell**, Mayor, Saline, Michigan • **Doug Echols**, Mayor, Rock Hill, South Carolina • **James J. Finley, Jr.**, Executive Director and CEO, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities • **Larry G. Frang**, Executive Director, Illinois Municipal League • **J. David Fraser**, Executive Director, Nevada League of Cities and Municipalities • **Dan Furtado**, Councilmember, Campbell, California • **Miriam Hair**, Executive Director, Municipal Association of South Carolina • **Rap Hankins**, Council Member, Trotwood, Ohio • **Deborah A. Hill**, Councilwoman, Warrensville Heights, Ohio • **Edna Branch Jackson**, Mayor Pro-Tem/Alderman at-Large, Savannah, Georgia • **Bobby G. Kilgore**, Mayor, Monroe, North Carolina • **George Lewis**, Executive Director, Mississippi Municipal League • **Sylvia L. Lovely**, Executive Director, Kentucky League of Cities, Inc. • **Myron Lowery**, Council Member, Memphis, Tennessee • **Sam Mamet**, Executive Director, Colorado Municipal League • **James F. Miller**, Executive Director, League of Minnesota Cities • **Mark Mitchell**, Council Member, Tempe, Arizona • **Garret L. Nancolas**, Mayor, Caldwell, Idaho • **Frank C. Ortis**, Mayor, Pembroke Pines, Florida • **Tzeitel Paras-Caracci**, Council Member, Duarte, California • **Elizabeth C. Paterson**, Mayor, Mansfield, Connecticut • **Randall W. B. Purvis**, Council Member, Colorado Springs, Colorado • **Debbie W. Quinn**, Councilmember, Fairhope, Alabama • **Sonja Reece**, Mayor Pro Tem, Normal, Illinois • **Ed P. Reyes**, Councilmember, Los Angeles, California • **Sergio Rodriguez**, Alderman, New Haven, Connecticut • **Steve Salazar**, Councilmember, Dallas, Texas • **Audwin M. Samuel**, Mayor Pro Tem, Beaumont, Texas • **Sharyn T. Tallman**, Councilor, Parkersburg, West Virginia • **James Taylor**, Councilman, Littleton, Colorado

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
The Honorable Jeff Sessions
September 11, 2009
Page Two

In closing, Ms. Robinson's expertise and commitment to these issues will be an invaluable addition to the Department of Justice's efforts to partner with cities and towns to improve the quality of life in our communities. We are proud to support her nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald J. Borut". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Donald" and last name "Borut" clearly distinguishable.

Donald J. Borut
Executive Director



AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION

206 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 200 • ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

703 • 224 • 0000 FAX: 703 • 224 • 0010

WWW.ACA.ORG

September 14, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Sessions:

I am writing on behalf of the American Correctional Association, our President Harold Clarke, and our 19,000 members to express our full support for the nomination of Laurie Robinson to become Assistant Attorney General. It is hard to imagine anyone more deserving of a swift confirmation than Ms. Robinson.

Ms. Robinson is a proven leader who has worked hard to enhance and strengthen our criminal justice system. She has the experience and leadership skills necessary to succeed as Assistant Attorney General and as a liaison for state and local law enforcement.

The American Correctional Association was supportive of Ms. Robinson when she previously served at the Office of Justice Programs, was pleased to hear of her nomination by the President for this term and is looking forward to working with her again on the many issues and concerns facing the corrections profession and the criminal justice system.

She is a proven leader, with an impeccable record of integrity and is well respected in our profession. She deserves confirmation and we strongly encourage you to support the nomination of Laurie Robinson as Assistant Attorney General and to move swiftly with her confirmation.

Sincerely,

James A. Gondles, Jr., CAE
Executive Director



September 14, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy and Senator Sessions:

I write to you on behalf of the Board and members of the International Community Corrections Association (ICCA) in support of the nomination of Laurie Robinson to serve once again in the capacity of Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs. ICCA has had much experience with Ms. Robinson over the years and knows her fine character, excellent qualities, and devotion to public service.

The ICCA is a non-profit membership association whose agency members operate some 1500 community-based residential, treatment, day-reporting and other correctional programs throughout North America. ICCA was organized in 1964 and, in the words of Ms. Robinson herself, has “been doing prisoner reentry since before reentry was cool.” In pursuit of our work – reintegrating individuals safely back into their families and communities – we have learned to rely upon the expertise, knowledge, and wisdom of Ms. Robinson as she has served in her various capacities with the American Bar Association, the U.S. Department of Justice, and as a scholar with the University of Pennsylvania.

What we value especially in Ms. Robinson is her commitment to collegiality, her genuine interest in listening to those in the field and learning from their grass-roots experience. A great strength of hers is promoting research and evidence-based practices, while maintaining an open mind to field-generated innovations that seize upon new opportunities as they arise. As you can see from our logo, ICCA is committed to “Doing What Works,” and this makes us a strong partner for a person of Ms. Robinson’s demonstrated dedication to protecting the public safety.

We know from years of experience that Ms. Robinson is indefatigable in the pursuit of justice for victims, for children and youth, and for people striving to take advantage of a second chance at responsible citizenship. We are eager to continue collaborating with her at the Office of Justice Programs as partners in optimizing our collective resources in achieving community justice.

Sincerely,

Jane Browning
Executive Director



POLICE EXECUTIVE
RESEARCH FORUM

Chuck Wexler
Executive Director

September 14, 2009

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
SD-224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

On behalf of the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), I am writing to endorse wholeheartedly the nomination of Laurie Robinson for Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

PERF is a Washington, D.C.-based professional association of police chiefs and other leaders of local and state police departments. PERF also serves as a research and technical assistance organization specializing in helping police agencies to improve their policies and operations. PERF is governed by a board of directors of leading police chiefs.

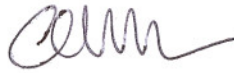
I have known Laurie Robinson for 20 years, and can tell you that she is one of the most respected leaders in the criminal justice field. During her previous service as Assistant Attorney General in the 1990s, and throughout her career, Ms. Robinson has been actively engaged in issues in the criminal justice field and has spoken on numerous occasions at our national meetings. Just over the last year, she has made time in her schedule to join us at several PERF meetings. So police chiefs from across the nation know Laurie well, and I don't know of any chief who has not been impressed with her dedication and commitment to improving the justice system. Her nomination has been universally praised by the field, because people recognize that she is a person of character and integrity.

Furthermore, we are grateful that Ms. Robinson agreed to place her academic career at the University of Pennsylvania on hiatus in order to return to the Justice Department, because it will be a tremendous benefit to have such an experienced leader at OJP. Ms. Robinson has a depth of knowledge about what works in criminal justice and what does not work. She is known for having a "systemwide" approach to justice issues, an understanding that a multi-disciplinary view is required because the justice system is inherently fragmented across various types of separate agencies, from police and prosecutors to prisons, probation and parole. Ms. Robinson is committed to prevention as well as enforcement, and has always promoted innovation and continuous improvement in justice operations.

And of course, anyone who meets Ms. Robinson is quickly impressed by her strong intellect, her work ethic, and her lifetime of public service.

On behalf of PERF, I urge you to give expeditious consideration to Laurie Robinson's nomination and to confirm her appointment to this critically important post in the Justice Department.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'CW', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chuck Wexler
Executive Director



National Troopers Coalition

National Troopers Coalition
c/o Dutko Worldwide
412 First Street, SE Suite 100
Washington DC, 20003
Phone: 202.479.7162
Fax: 202.863.1980

MICHAEL EDES (ME)
NTC Chairman

September 15, 2009

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First Vice Chairman

DANNY KINGSMORE (SC)
Second Vice Chairman

THOMAS H. MUNGEER (NY)
Corresponding Secretary

GLEN JONES (WI)
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L.H. "BUDDY" PARKER (IL)
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South Coordinator

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East Coordinator

ROB COX (AK)
West Coordinator

LARRY SCHNEIDER
Legal Counsel

MICHAEL F. CANNING
Government Relations

A. BRADFORD CARD
Government Relations

MICHAEL MUTH
Director of Communications

DENNIS J. HALLION (NJ)
Past Chairman

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary
Committee
United States Senate
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

On behalf of the National Troopers Coalition (NTC) and its 40,000 State Troopers and Highway Patrol Officers, I am pleased to offer our unqualified support for the nomination of Laurie O. Robinson as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs in the United States Department of Justice.

Ms. Robinson has been a leader on criminal justice issues for more than two decades. She has earned the trust and confidence of state and local law enforcement and her efforts have made our nation safer. Her prior experience running this office means she is able to hit the ground running, and she has deep knowledge of the challenges faced by law enforcement agencies across the nation. This experience is crucial at a time when many communities face both persistent public safety challenges as well as shrinking state and municipal budgets. We are not aware of anyone who is more qualified for this position.

NTC wholeheartedly supports and stands behind Ms. Robinson. We urge her swift confirmation by the United States Senate. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael S. Edes
Chairman



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

1620 EYE STREET, NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
TELEPHONE (202) 293-7330
FAX (202) 293-2352
TDD (202) 293-9445
URL: www.usmayors.org/uscm

September 15, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

I write on behalf of America's mayors to register our strong support for the confirmation of Laurie Robinson as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs. We applaud President Obama for nominating her and urge you to confirm her nomination quickly.

Ms. Robinson provided strong leadership to the Office of Justice Programs when she served as Assistant Attorney General during the 1990's. Her management of the Office on an acting basis this year – particularly the quick and responsive implementation of the funds provided to the Office through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act – has been superb. The funds were administered efficiently and effectively and are making a real difference in cities across the nation – providing jobs and enhancing public safety.

Beyond her service in the U.S. Department of Justice, Ms. Robinson brings a wealth of other important experience and knowledge to the job. Her recent work at the University of Pennsylvania involved both academic expertise and practical approaches to preventing and responding to crime, along with strong management responsibilities. Her earlier work at the American Bar Association demonstrated her knowledge of a range of criminal justice issues and of the ways of Washington.

We can think of no better candidate for Assistant Attorney General than Laurie Robinson. We look forward to working with her to make our cities safer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Cochran".

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director



Wisconsin State Public Defender

315 N. Henry St. - 2nd Floor
PO Box 7923 Madison, WI 53707-7923
Office Number: 608-266-0087 / Fax Number: 608-267-0584
www.wisspd.org

Nicholas L. Chiarkas
State Public Defender

Kelli S. Thompson
Deputy State Public
Defender

September 16, 2009

Senator Russ Feingold
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-4904

Re: Laurie O. Robinson Confirmation as Assistant Attorney General

Dear Senator Feingold:

I am honored to write to you in support of the confirmation of Laurie O. Robinson as an Assistant Attorney General.

I have known Ms. Robinson for more than twenty years. She undoubtedly is one of the brightest and genuinely decent people I know. She always demonstrates to me a keen sense of context and impeccable judgment. She consistently performs with excellence, diligence and imagination. She also functions flawlessly, and with ease, as a team leader and in collaboration with team members. Ms. Robinson is a skilled and experienced attorney who has earned the respect of everyone with whom she has worked.

I have no doubt that Ms. Robinson will manage with uncompromising dexterity the competing demands of an Assistant Attorney General's time and attention while dealing with the myriad of sensitive issues that she would face in such a critical role. She has shown these abilities through her work as a smart-on-crime policy advocate who has spearheaded initiatives in a wide range of areas such as comprehensive community-based crime control, violence reduction against women, enhanced law enforcement technology, reduction of drug abuse and corrections reforms. At the same time, Ms. Robinson is a strong advocate for a fair due-process based justice system that aims to guarantee our nation's poorest citizens the same rights all our citizens enjoy. I assure you, based on my combined experience as the Wisconsin State Public Defender, a former New York City police officer, and a federal investigator/prosecutor, Ms. Robinson will be an outstanding Assistant Attorney General.

I appreciate the opportunity to recommend that Ms. Robinson be confirmed as an Assistant Attorney General of the United States. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

NICHOLAS L. CHIARKAS
Wisconsin State Public Defender



1140 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20036
T: 202.452.0620
F: 202.872.1031
www.nlada.org

September 17, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
U.S. Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary
U.S. Senate
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

We are writing to add our vigorous support to the nomination of Ms. Laurie O. Robinson to be Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP).

The National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA), founded in 1911, is the oldest and largest national, nonprofit membership organization devoting all of its resources to advocating equal access to justice for all people. NLADA champions effective legal assistance for people who cannot afford counsel and serves as a collective voice for both civil legal services and public defense services throughout the nation. Through its long history, NLADA has established itself as a leader in the development of national standards relating to the delivery and provision of legal services and has been a longstanding partner with the United States Department of Justice on standards development and other initiatives that advance the administration of justice.

Ms. Robinson's distinguished career provides ample evidence of her qualifications to lead the Office of Justice Programs in carrying out its mission to "increase public safety and improve the fair administration of justice across America through innovative leadership and programs." NLADA worked closely with Ms. Robinson from 1993 to 2000 when she held the same position for which she is being nominated now. She is a strategic, effective leader who understands the complexities of justice systems and how to deploy resources and utilize research, data and other tools to strengthen systems. Under her leadership, the annual appropriations for the Office of Justice Programs grew substantially ---from \$800 million to \$4 billion -- and she led the development of initiatives that are now hallmarks of quality criminal justice administration, including community-based crime control and increased investments in preventing and treating drug abuse.

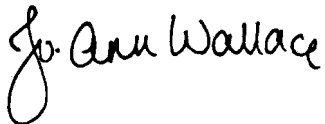
Ms. Robinson has a firm understanding of how all components of the justice system are inextricably intertwined, including each of the three "legs" of the criminal justice adjudication function: the courts, prosecution and defense, and must be supported in tandem for fairness and efficiency to prevail. As Assistant Attorney General in 1999, Ms. Robinson led the development of the first ever National Symposium on Indigent Defense. Bringing together state policymakers and justice officials, the conference

spurred substantial, beneficial public defense system reforms. As recently as June 24 when she addressed NLADA's American Council of Chief Defenders as the Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs, Ms. Robinson reiterated a point that Attorney General Eric Holder had made to the audience just moments before, "...we believe that our criminal and juvenile justice systems work ONLY if we provide EVERY DEFENDANT WITH COMPETENT COUNSEL." She went on to stress the importance of "giving public defenders the tools they need to do their jobs effectively. This means training. This means technology. It means standards. It means data and research so that we can gain a better understanding of the needs of public defense systems."

We have complete confidence that Ms. Robinson will deliver on the intentions she expressed to those conference attendees. She did it with resolve and success under the stewardship of Janet Reno. She will do it with equal fervor under the leadership of Attorney General Holder.

We thank you for the opportunity to support such an outstanding nominee. We hope the Committee will grant her the respect and consideration she so richly deserves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jo-Ann Wallace". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Jo-Ann Wallace
President & CEO



September 21, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
433 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), I write in support of the nomination of Laurie O. Robinson for the position of Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in the U.S. Department of Justice. She is an outstanding choice for this position and we urge her confirmation as soon as possible.

NCPC, the home of McGruff the Crime Dog®, is the nation's center of excellence for crime prevention. A private, non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, NCPC's primary mission is to be the nation's leader in helping people keep themselves, their families and their communities safe from crime. Through a variety of materials, programs, public service campaigns, training curricula and websites, NCPC enables families and neighborhoods to create healthy and safe communities for children and youth. NCPC is a regular and frequent partner with OJP and its bureaus in its important crime prevention work.

As you know, Ms. Robinson has been serving as Acting Assistant Attorney General/Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for OJP since January 28, 2009. Her previous service as Assistant Attorney General at OJP from 1993-2000 makes her uniquely qualified to take over its leadership on a permanent basis, especially now when law enforcement agencies all over the country are faced with budget cuts and spiking crime rates.

During her successful previous tenure at the helm of OJP, Ms. Robinson oversaw the largest increase in federal spending on criminal justice in the nation's history as OJP's annual appropriations grew from \$800 million to \$4 billion. She managed that budget while demonstrating a fealty to spending federal dollars wisely. She spearheaded a number of initiatives in areas ranging from comprehensive, community-based crime control to violence against women, law enforcement technology, drug abuse and corrections. Throughout her distinguished career, she has been a tireless advocate for juvenile justice delinquency prevention.

Ms. Robinson has also shown her skills as an accomplished administrator. She ran OJP, and coordinated with others in DOJ and other agencies, in order to get the job done and get it done on time and right.

2345 Crystal Drive
Fifth Floor
Arlington, VA 22202
tel 202-466-6272
fax 202-296-1356
www.ncpc.org

To be the nation's leader in helping people keep themselves, their families, and their communities safe from crime.

Since leaving OJP in 2001, Ms. Robinson has served as a Distinguished Senior Scholar in the University of Pennsylvania's Jerry Lee Center of Criminology and as Executive Director of its Forum on Crime and Justice. She has also been the director of the Master of Science Program in the University's Department of Criminology.

Prior to joining the Department of Justice in 1993, Ms. Robinson directed the Criminal Justice Section of the American Bar Association for 14 years. She serves on the boards of criminal justice organizations and has written and spoken extensively in the field.

It is hard to imagine a more qualified candidate than Ms. Robinson to serve as the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs. It is important that OJP have its permanent leadership in place as soon as possible. We therefore, look forward to Ms. Robinson's prompt confirmation.

Sincerely yours,



Ann M. Harkins
President and CEO

*Laurie has been &
will be a tremendous
asset to the Department's
programs across the
country.*

*Warm personal regards,
Ault*



Mayor of Providence

David N. Cicilline

September 24, 2009

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

I am writing to express my strong support for the confirmation of Ms. Laurie Robinson as the Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs at the U.S. Department of Justice.

During the Clinton Administration, from 1993 through February 2000, Ms. Robinson served as the Assistant Attorney General at the Office of Justice Programs. Under her leadership, the Office of Justice Programs experienced unprecedented growth in federal funding, growing from \$800 million in 1993 to over \$4 billion in 2000. These federal resources produced many innovative programs ranging from community-based crime control initiatives, violence against women prevention programs, law enforcement technology, and prisoner reentry initiatives. The cumulative effect of these various programs was a major drop in crime and many of these programs are still making positive impacts in our cities today.

Ms. Robinson has demonstrated a commitment to work in close partnership with Mayors and city leaders to learn first-hand about the public safety challenges that they faced. Most importantly, Ms. Robinson has always been accessible to city leaders to share her expertise whether at the Justice Department or her recent tenure in academia at the University of Pennsylvania. Through her knowledge of the issues, vision, proven leadership ability, integrity, and commitment to building local partnerships, Ms. Robinson will be an outstanding Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

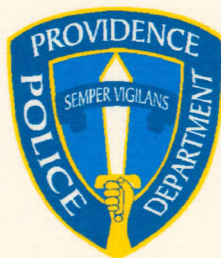
I strongly urge the Committee to confirm Ms. Robinson and I look forward to working in partnership with her.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Cicilline", is written over a horizontal line.

David N. Cicilline
Mayor

Dean M. Esserman
Chief of Police



David N. Cicilline
Mayor

Providence Police Department
"Building Pride in Providence"

September 24, 2009

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
335 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the confirmation of Ms. Laurie Robinson as the Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

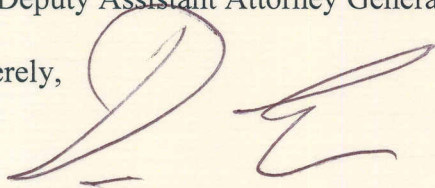
I have known Ms. Robinson both professionally and personally for over 10 years. Her vast intellect, exceptional record of accomplishment, and unquestioned dedication and commitment to public service will serve her well in the Justice Department. While serving as Assistant Attorney General in the 1990's, Ms. Robinson oversaw the largest increase in federal spending on criminal justice programs in the nation's history. She worked closely with Police Chiefs to understand their needs and provided the necessary funding to create innovative law enforcement programs to address those needs. Ms. Robinson is a trusted partner with law enforcement and has earned the respect and admiration of Police Chiefs and Sheriffs throughout the United States.

As a member of the Board of Trustees for the Vera Institute which Ms. Robinson chaired, I saw first-hand Ms. Robinson's exceptional grasp of issues ranging from prisoner incarceration, victims of crime, youth programs, and neighborhood-based policing initiatives. As a Police Chief, my Department has benefited from the various grant programs funded under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. The administration of these programs is a daunting task but under Ms. Robinson's leadership the distribution of these funds was handled expertly and the funding is making a real difference in enhancing public safety here in the City of Providence.

Ms. Robinson's recent experience in academia as the Director of the Master in Science Program in the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Criminology provides her with additional insight into creating, implementing, and evaluating criminal justice policy and programs.

From a personal standpoint, Ms. Robinson is a person of strong character and integrity. She will be a tremendous asset to the Justice Department. I strongly urge the Committee to report her confirmation favorably and look forward to working with Ms. Robinson as our next Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Dean M. Esserman
Colonel
Chief of Police

Criminology & Criminal Justice Policy Coalition



The Honorable Senator Patrick Leahy
433 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Senator Jeff Sessions
335 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

September 28, 2009

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

On behalf of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and the American Society of Criminology, we write to express our strong support for the nomination of Laurie Robinson to the position of Assistant Attorney General Laurie Robinson for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and urge you to act quickly in confirming her nomination.

Robinson currently serves as the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for OJP and brings to the position a breadth and depth of experience that makes her an exceptionally qualified candidate for this post. During the Clinton Administration she served as Assistant Attorney General for OJP, where she helped establish the Office on Violence Against Women and provided crucial leadership in the national movement toward drug courts and other problem-solving courts. Under her stewardship, the OJP enjoyed an unprecedented reputation for scientifically-supported policy making.

The Office of Justice Programs has several important functions. It promotes innovation in crime and justice through its grant program in support of new state and local justice initiatives. It advances the scientific foundation for crime and justice policy by funding important studies on crime and justice and by disseminating their results nationally. It serves as convener for policy makers, providing a crucial linchpin between the practice of criminal justice and the knowledge base being built by the scientific community. In so doing, it ensures that new state and local policies are based upon a growing foundation commonly called "what works." In short, OJP is the federal government's support system for new developments in crime and justice in state and local criminal justice systems. While good work is currently moving forward, the full effect of

OJP's leadership in crime and justice initiatives cannot be felt until all of its presidentially appointed directors are confirmed.

There is no candidate whose experience and proven capabilities provide a better foundation for leading the OJP than Laurie Robinson. She is a distinguished criminologist who has served admirably as a leading policy maker and reformer in a long list of roles, including heading the American Bar Association's (ABA) Criminal Justice Section (for 14 years) and founding its Juvenile Justice Center. Her leadership in the ABA enabled her to shape policy development in all aspects of criminal justice, from policing to corrections; there is no important national-level reform in criminal justice in the last 25 years about which she has not had at least some role.

While serving in her current position, Robinson has proven herself the right person for this job. She has shown inspired leadership in the way she has brought a diversity of stakeholders together to engage in broad discussions of OJP priorities, and her work to date heralds a new era of strategic justice policy leadership at the federal level. In just a few short months she has begun to pave the way for revitalization of cooperative work between the federal justice programs and initiatives at the state and local levels, and she has already strengthened the foundation for high-quality, high-impact crime and justice research.

On behalf of our members, we urge you to act quickly to confirm Laurie Robinson as the new Assistant Attorney General of the Office of Justice Programs. As nominations for heads of other offices within OJP must await the confirmation of its director, confirmation of the OJP Assistant Attorney General is the necessary first step in assembling a full leadership team for the Office of Justice Programs. With this confirmation, the Office of Justice Programs can turn its full attention to its agenda of effectiveness in criminal justice.

Sincerely yours,



Todd R. Clear
President, 2008-2009
American Society of Criminology
Distinguished Professor
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
The City University of New York



Janice Joseph
President, 2009-2010
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Criminal Justice Program



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

October 5, 2009

Arthur M. Wallenstein
Director

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chair
and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 224
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Letter in Support - Laurie Robinson – Nominated for Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice

Dear Senator Leahy and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I learned last Friday that the Senate Judiciary Committee would conduct a formal hearing on the nomination of Laurie Robinson as Assistant Attorney General for Justice Programs this coming Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 PM. I am very pleased that I learned of the hearing as I wanted to offer brief comments in support of the President's nominee and the Judiciary Committee's review of her qualifications and fitness for this key position in national criminal justice operations.

I have direct knowledge of Laurie Robinson's professional qualifications for this position. I have worked with her on public policy issues and national correctional policy through our joint appointment to the National Institute of Corrections Advisory Board. We worked in this capacity from 1994 through 2000 and I continued on through 2004. I was privileged to work directly with then Assistant Attorney General Robinson and I should be very direct – this is one of the most focused, engaged and diligent senior public managers I have ever encountered in a career that has extended almost 40 years in the field of criminal justice and corrections. I doubt there is a more respected senior public service manager in the country in this area of public policy than Laurie Robinson. She holds a unique role and a very unique level of support across a broad spectrum of line practitioners just as she earned and retained the respect of many legislators during her previous tenure at the Justice Department.

The Office of Justice Programs and its scope, focus, and level of national involvement demands quality management. It also must generate the highest level of trust and acceptance of evidence and quality based practice for submissions that flow from almost every jurisdiction in the country. Ms. Robinson is accepted as a no nonsense senior manager – commitment to evidence based practice will be a hallmark and guiding principle of her administration if confirmed.

This is not simply talk – she has been deeply involved with the Campbell Partnership in a leadership role and understands what “evidence based practice” means on the real world shop floor of criminal justice practice. It will not be some blind and thoughtful conceptual best practice language. Laurie Robinson will translate this prescription into real world practice throughout criminal justice operations and programs and grant evaluation and program development in her area of focus within the Justice Department. I could not imagine a finer nor better prepared senior manager to hit the ground moving. Laurie Robinson demonstrated her commitment to quality and her commitment to staying in place and providing unique stability of leadership during her previous tenure at Justice and this will continue in the future if confirmed.

I have lectured in her courses in the graduate program at the University Of Pennsylvania Jerry Lee Institute Of Criminology (without any form of compensation). When Laurie Robinson calls you consider it an honor to be asked and you do it. Her focus and determination to improve criminal justice operations in this country is firm, without qualification and projected as a professional policy and operational leader. People from across the criminal justice progression – policy and operations – will gravitate to her circle of interest given her reputation and her past productivity and commitment to quality. Her sense and practice of ethical standards is exemplary – this is a career professional deeply respected across the country for the quality of her work and her commitment to substance at every level of performance and practice.

The Senate Judiciary Committee will not be making a thoughtful but reasoned guess if Laurie Robinson is confirmed. The Committee and then the full Senate will be supporting the arrival of one of the singularly most respected and deeply qualified criminal justice senior managers and public policy managers in this country. I earnestly, eagerly, and professionally urge her confirmation for the position of Assistant Attorney general – Office of Justice Programs. Please call upon me if I might provide any further, information to the Judiciary Committee as this matter moves to formal review. I look forward to attending the hearing in support of this splendid colleague.

Respectfully submitted,



Arthur Wallenstein
Director



THOMAS J. MILLER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Department of Justice

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
HOOVER BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319
TELEPHONE: 515/281-5164
FACSIMILE: 515/281-4209

October 26, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate

VIA E-MAIL

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Laurie Robinson for Assistant Attorney General for Office of Justice Programs (OJP). Ms. Robinson would influence policies concerning how the Federal government relates to State Attorneys General, as well as state, county and local law enforcement officials. I believe that Ms. Robinson has the knowledge, experience and judgment necessary to head the Office of Justice Programs and work effectively with law enforcement officials at all levels.

Ms. Robinson brings substantial experience to the position, having previously served as Assistant Attorney General at the Office of Justice Programs from 1993 to 2000. In that capacity she oversaw the largest increase in criminal justice research in the nation's history. During her previous tenure as Assistant Attorney General for OJP, Ms. Robinson also spearheaded a number of initiatives that significantly helped the states in areas ranging from comprehensive community-based crime control to violence against women, law enforcement technology and drug abuse and corrections reform. We are confident that Ms. Robinson would continue to work to provide support for state and local law enforcement so that we and our colleagues at the state and local level can continue to be effective in our mission.

It should be noted that prior to joining the Department of Justice in 1993, Ms. Robinson was the director of the American Bar Association's Section of Criminal Justice for 14 years, where she founded the ABA's Juvenile Justice Center and had responsibility for policy development, interaction with Congress, as well as development of special projects in such areas as assistance for crime victims, safety and abuse in the United States prison system, computer crimes and technical assistance and training of state and local law enforcement officials.

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
The Honorable Jeff Sessions
October 26, 2009
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Throughout her career, Ms. Robinson has displayed the professionalism and good judgment that is so important to this position. Therefore, I urge you to confirm the nomination of Laurie Robinson for Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. J. Miller", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Thomas J. Miller
Attorney General of Iowa