



STATE OF ALABAMA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

STEVE MARSHALL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

501 WASHINGTON AVE  
MONTGOMERY, AL

March 4, 2025

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

I am honored to write this letter of endorsement in support of Secretary Terrance "Terry" Cole for Administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement Agency. With over 28 years of distinguished law enforcement experience, including 22 years of service with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Secretary Cole has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to public safety and national security. His extensive leadership in domestic and international operations, coupled with his expertise in counter-narcotics and homeland security, makes him an exemplary candidate for continued service in safeguarding our nation.

As Virginia's Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Secretary Cole leads 11 state agencies, overseeing more than 19,000 employees dedicated to protecting the citizens, businesses, and critical infrastructure of the Commonwealth. His role as Homeland Security Advisor to Governor Youngkin highlights his strategic acumen in addressing security threats and emergency preparedness on a statewide scale.

Throughout his career, Secretary Cole has been a steadfast leader, serving in high-stakes positions such as Chief of Staff and Executive Officer at the DEA Special Operations Division, DEA representative to the National Security Council, and Acting Regional Director for Mexico, Canada, and Central America. His global experience in Colombia, Afghanistan, Mexico, and the Middle East further underscores his capability in handling complex security challenges with a diplomatic and operational mindset.

Beyond his government service, Secretary Cole has successfully transitioned into the private sector, applying his expertise in financial security and regulatory compliance. His academic credentials from institutions such as the University of Virginia, Notre Dame, MIT, and Cornell demonstrate a continuous

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pursuit of knowledge in emerging technologies and security frameworks.

Above all, Secretary Cole is a dedicated husband and father, instilling a legacy of service in his family. His sons' commitment to military service is a testament to the values of duty and sacrifice that he upholds.

Given his exemplary record, proven leadership, and steadfast dedication to public service, I strongly endorse Secretary Terrance Cole for Administrator. I am confident that his expertise, integrity, and commitment to national security will continue to serve our country well.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Steve Marshall". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font. The first name "Steve" is written with a large, looping "S" and the last name "Marshall" follows in a similar cursive style.

Steve Marshall

Attorney General of Alabama