



National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations

National Headquarters
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January 17, 2017

Senator Chuck Grassley,

Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Senator Grassley:

The National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations (NAGIA) supports the confirmation of Senator Jeff Sessions for Attorney General of the United States.

NAGIA is an alliance of criminal justice professionals dedicated to the development and implementation of coordinated anti-gang strategies. The Alliance is composed of twenty-four state and regional gang investigators associations whose combined membership exceeds 20,000. NAGIA strives to ensure public safety through a coordinated response to the criminal activities perpetuated by gangs. NAGIA, with the input of the member associations, has assisted in data collection for the National Gang Report, an overview of current gang activities in the United States, in conjunction with the National Gang Intelligence Center. This report addresses the criminal gang activity experienced by communities throughout the United States. The report focuses on criminal street gangs, prison gangs and outlaw motorcycle gangs. All three types of gangs are having a profoundly negative affect on American communities.

NAGIA strives for a successful on-going partnership with federal, state and local law enforcement. To achieve this objective, NAGIA is instrumental in information sharing and threat assessments regarding criminal gang activity and best practices in the development and recommendations of programs designed to address violence reduction generally, and in those areas that are experiencing criminal gang activity. NAGIA also conducts training for law enforcement personnel, and for the community, through the member associations, as a component of International Gang Awareness Day.

NAGIA was founded in 1998. The Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, is a member of NAGIA's advisory board. The gang problem in the United States is real and

continuing. America needs a strong Attorney General, and Department of Justice, committed to the prosecution of gang members for crimes committed against individuals, businesses and governments. NAGIA is confident that under the leadership and direction of Senator Sessions the Department of Justice will re-engage and refocus it's mission and strategies to combat gang crimes in the United States. This would include reinvesting in the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program. It means reinvigorating criminal intelligence, information sharing, and deconfliction efforts through the Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) program. It also means embracing multi jurisdictional task forces that enable law enforcement collaboration

against threats to our communities, and creating, strengthening and supporting gang suppression units in local and state police agencies.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (480) 216-0214 regarding any questions you may have about this letter, or about any legislation that comes before your committee addressing the issue of gangs.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chuck Schoville". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Chuck Schoville,
President,

National AllianceOf Gang Investigators Associations