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March 4, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Chairman Grassley, and Ranking Member Durbin:

On behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), I am pleased to offer our endorsement of Secretary Terrance Cole as the next Administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Secretary Cole's extensive experience and unwavering commitment to public safety make him an excellent nominee for this critical position.

Secretary Cole has had a distinguished career in law enforcement, with professional roles at the federal, state, and local levels. His tenure includes serving as the Chief of Staff and Executive Officer at the DEA Special Operations Division, the DEA representative to the National Security Council, Chief of Staff and Executive Officer for the DEA Chief of Global Operations, and serving as the Acting Regional Director of Mexico, Canada, and Central America.

Secretary Cole currently serves as the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In this role, he oversees a wide range of public safety initiatives and works closely with state and local law enforcement agencies to enhance public safety across the Commonwealth. Secretary Cole's leadership in Virginia has been marked by a commitment to collaboration, innovation, and the effective allocation of resources to address the most pressing public safety challenges.

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West University Place, TX,
Police Department

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Chief Executive Officer
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Alexandria, VA

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Chief Operating Officer
Terrence M. Cunningham
Alexandria, VA

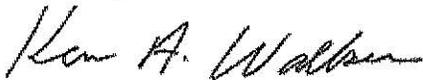
Secretary Cole's dedication to international cooperation is equally noteworthy. He has actively worked to strengthen global partnerships with international policing organizations, recognizing that the fight against drug trafficking requires a coordinated global response. His ability to bring together diverse stakeholders to tackle pressing issues is a testament to his leadership and commitment to justice and the rule of law.

In discussions with the IACP leadership, Secretary Cole highlighted his dedication to enhanced enforcement efforts. He also emphasized the importance of forging stronger domestic and international partnerships with police agencies, as well as prioritizing the safety and wellness of officers. Secretary Cole underscored the necessity of providing greater federal resources and information to state and local police agencies to bolster their counter-narcotics initiatives. He stressed that a well-balanced approach is essential for success, which includes appropriate policies, enforcement, prevention, and treatment.

For these reasons, the IACP firmly believes that Secretary Cole's track record of success, his dedication to working with state and local law enforcement, and his commitment to international cooperation makes him abundantly qualified to lead the DEA. We are confident that under his leadership, the DEA will continue to advance its mission of combating drug trafficking and ensuring public safety.

The IACP urges the Judiciary Committee and the members of the United States Senate to swiftly confirm the nomination of Secretary Terrance Cole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ken A. Walker".

Ken A. Walker
IACP President