



# WILLIAM & MARY

CHARTERED 1693

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

February 17, 2025

Judiciary Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators:

I'm writing to express my support for Virginia's Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Terrence Cole, to lead the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Secretary Cole is a dedicated law enforcement leader who leads with professionalism, competence, and humility. He is a collaborative and supportive partner, with many years of experience, including more than two decades in the DEA.

More recently, as the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security in the Commonwealth of Virginia, I've worked closely with Secretary Cole and his staff, as they guided us through challenging times related to the violence in the Middle East, and associated activities on college campuses. As the Police Chief and Interim Associate Vice President for Public Safety at William & Mary, I've found the leadership, guidance, and support of Secretary Cole and his staff to be steadfast, unwavering, and invaluable.

Terrence Cole has dedicated his life to public service and public safety. He's done so with the highest ethical and moral standards and will undoubtedly continue to do so in leading the DEA. Having served in law enforcement for 33 years and supervised a narcotics enforcement unit in a local municipal department for 10 years, I recognize the challenges in drug enforcement. Secretary Cole is well-suited to meet these challenges, lead this agency, and continue making the United States a safer place. I cannot think of someone better suited or prepared to do so, and Secretary Cole has my highest recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Donald K. Butler  
Police Chief  
William & Mary Police Department