



Charlottesville Police Department

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"Community Partners in Safety"



March 12th, 2025

Senator Charles E. Grassley
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley,

I write to express my support for Virginia Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Terry Cole as the nominee for the position of Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Agency. Secretary Cole has been a steadfast advocate for law enforcement across the Commonwealth of Virginia and a trusted partner in public safety.

From the beginning of his tenure, Secretary Cole prioritized building meaningful relationships with law enforcement leaders, recognizing that collaboration is essential to ensuring the safety and security of our communities. His commitment to these partnerships has been evident not only in policy but also in moments of crisis.

When one of my officers was seriously injured in the line of duty, Secretary Cole was among the first to reach out. Without hesitation, he met me at the hospital to offer his support, demonstrating both compassion and leadership. In another instance, he played a critical role in expediting DNA results for a high-profile death investigation, helping to provide swift clarity to a community in distress. Thanks to his assistance, the results were delivered within three days, allowing my team to provide much-needed answers to the victim's family as they began their grieving process.

Secretary Cole is a dedicated public servant who understands the importance of local governance while ensuring that jurisdictions have the necessary tools and resources to address the increasingly complex challenges facing law enforcement and the communities we serve. His ability to bridge perspectives, respect diverse viewpoints, and foster bipartisan solutions makes him an ideal candidate for this vital role.

I respectfully urge your full consideration of Secretary Cole's nomination. His leadership, integrity, and unwavering commitment to public safety will undoubtedly serve the DEA and our nation well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael P. Kochis".

Michael P. Kochis
Chief of Police