



July 10, 2026

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary:

On behalf of The American Border Story (TABS), and the more than 300 Angel Families we represent across the country, I write to express our strong support for the confirmation of Todd Blanche to serve as Attorney General of the United States.

TABS is a national organization dedicated to elevating the voices of Angel Families, those who have lost loved ones as a result of crimes committed by individuals who were unlawfully present in the United States. Through storytelling, advocacy, and direct engagement with policymakers, we work to ensure that the human impact of border and immigration policy remains at the forefront of the national conversation.

For the families we represent, law enforcement is not an abstract debate. It is the difference between accountability and silence, between deterrence and preventable tragedy, and between a government that confronts violent criminal networks and one that allows those networks to prey on American communities.

The Department of Justice is operating at a consequential moment. Foreign gangs, cartels, human traffickers, child predators, and transnational criminal organizations are exploiting weaknesses at the border and within our justice system. Angel Families have seen the cost of those failures in the most personal way possible. They need an Attorney General who understands that public safety, immigration enforcement, victim protection, and accountability are inseparable.

Todd Blanche has already demonstrated that understanding. As Deputy Attorney General, he established Operation Take Back America to align federal prosecutors, law enforcement, OCADETF resources, Project Safe Neighborhoods, and Homeland Security Task Forces around core public-safety priorities: stopping illegal immigration, eliminating cartels and transnational criminal organizations, ending trafficking in dangerous drugs and human

beings, and protecting American communities from violent crime. That initiative specifically directs federal efforts toward threats posed by Tren de Aragua, MS-13, cartels, human smuggling, human trafficking, and violent offenders whose conduct has devastated families across the country.

That kind of operational focus matters to Angel Families. It means the Department is not treating border-related crime as a secondary issue. It means prosecutors are being directed to pursue the most serious, readily provable offenses. It means federal resources are being coordinated with state and local law enforcement. And it means violent criminal aliens, gang members, traffickers, and cartel-linked offenders are being treated as the public-safety threats they are.

Blanche's record also reflects a clear commitment to confronting the gangs and transnational criminal organizations that have brought violence into American communities. The Justice Department has pursued Tren de Aragua cases involving murder, attempted murder of law enforcement, sex trafficking, kidnapping, robbery, narcotics, firearms offenses, and other violent crimes. In one recent case, four illegal alien Tren de Aragua members pleaded guilty in connection with the murders of two unarmed U.S. citizens and the shooting of a third victim in New York. In another, a suspected Tren de Aragua member was charged with attempted murder of a federal officer, with Blanche making clear that violent attacks by terrorist gang members against those who serve our communities would be met with swift and decisive justice.

Blanche has also helped reopen more than 28 cases that were mishandled or neglected under previous administrations, giving victims and their families a renewed opportunity to pursue answers and accountability. For Angel Families who have spent years fighting to keep their loved ones' cases from being forgotten, that willingness to revisit failed investigations is not an abstract promise. It is a meaningful step toward restoring faith in the justice system.

The Department's work has also produced concrete justice for an Angel Family whose loss became a national symbol of the consequences of MS-13 violence. In July 2025, the Justice Department secured a 68-year federal prison sentence for MS-13 leader Alexi Saenz for a racketeering conspiracy involving eight murders, including the brutal 2016 killings of 15-year-old Nisa Mickens and 16-year-old Kayla Cuevas. Kayla's mother, Evelyn Rodriguez, became a nationally recognized Angel Mom and spent the remainder of her life demanding accountability for her daughter and other victims of gang violence. That sentence demonstrated that this Department is willing to pursue violent transnational gang members and deliver consequences for the families they have devastated.

For Angel Families, these cases are not statistics. They are reminders of why enforcement must be serious, consistent, and victim-centered. Every successful prosecution sends a message that the United States will not tolerate foreign gangs, traffickers, and criminal organizations terrorizing American families.

Blanche has also taken meaningful action on human trafficking and child exploitation, appointing a National Coordinator in the Office of the Deputy

Attorney General to strengthen the Department's strategy, improve information sharing, coordinate with federal agencies and outside stakeholders, and focus on preventing, prosecuting, and ending human trafficking and child exploitation in America. That work is directly relevant to the families and victims TABS advocates for, because trafficking networks, criminal gangs, and border insecurity often overlap in ways that expose vulnerable people to unimaginable harm.

We also recognize the importance of leadership that can work across federal, state, and local law enforcement. Angel Families often feel that their loved ones' cases expose breakdowns across multiple systems: immigration enforcement, criminal prosecution, information sharing, detention, and victim support. Blanche's approach has emphasized coordination, accountability, and the use of federal criminal justice tools to protect communities. That is exactly the posture this moment requires.

The families we work with are not focused on politics. They are focused on ensuring that no other family has to endure the same tragedy. They want leaders who take crime seriously, who understand the national security implications of open-border criminal networks, and who will prioritize victims over ideology.

We believe Todd Blanche understands that responsibility and would approach the office of Attorney General with the seriousness it demands. At a time when the Department of Justice must confront violent crime, illegal immigration, human trafficking, child exploitation, cartels, MS-13, Tren de Aragua, and other transnational threats, the country needs clear leadership and sustained operational focus.

For these reasons, TABS respectfully urges the Senate Committee on the Judiciary to give full and fair consideration to Todd Blanche's nomination and to advance his confirmation as Attorney General of the United States.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Nicole Kiprilov

Nicole Kiprilov
Executive Director
The American Border Story (TABS)