

June 23, 2025

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

We, the signatories below, are all former U.S. Department of Justice officials who write in support of the confirmation of Emil J. Bove to be a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

As former DOJ officials, we recognize the importance of public service, and confirmation as a federal judge would mark a continuation of Mr. Bove's career-long commitment to public service. He began his career by clerking for two highly respected jurists in New York and later served nearly a decade as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York. Most recently, he departed his position as a partner in a successful law firm to return to DOJ as the Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General.

From our time litigating on behalf of DOJ, we also recognize that the judiciary depends on judges who are willing to rule without fear in the most important and controversial of cases. Mr. Bove has never shied away from taking on the hardest matters. As an Assistant U.S. Attorney, he rose through the ranks to become the Co-Chief of the Terrorism and International Narcotics Unit, where he was part of the team that prosecuted the "Chelsea Bomber," for which Mr. Bove received the DOJ Award for Superior Performance by a Litigative Team. He also prosecuted members of Hezbollah, Russia's foreign intelligence service, and international gangs.

Given his excellent credentials, Mr. Bove could have chosen a quiet career path at that point. Instead, he agreed to take on several of the highest-profile cases in the Nation's history, representing President Trump in criminal prosecutions in Florida, New York, and the District of Columbia, even though this inevitably resulted in increased public scrutiny of Mr. Bove himself. Then, in the finest tradition of DOJ, Mr. Bove again chose public service in 2025 by agreeing to serve as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General, where he has been willing—as always—to take on the hardest cases, hear from all interested parties, and come to reasoned and just decisions, all of which are necessary traits for successful judicial service, as well.

Mr. Bove would make an eminently qualified and excellent addition to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. We respectfully urge the Senate Judiciary Committee and the full Senate to move expeditiously to process and confirm his nomination.

Sincerely,

R. Trent McCotter, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Virginia (2017-20); Deputy Associate Attorney General (2020-21)

Mike Davis, Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division; Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Virginia (2006)

Will Scharf, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Missouri (2020-22)

William R. Levi, Chief of Staff and Senior Counselor to the Attorney General (2020); Counselor to the Attorney General (2018-19)

Jay Town, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama (2017-20)

Jonathan Fahey, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Virginia (2002-19)

Paul Ingrassia, White House Liaison (2025)

Aaron F. Reitz, Assistant Attorney General for Office of Legal Policy (2025)

Jeffrey Bossert Clark, Deputy Assistant Attorney General (2001-05); Assistant Attorney General for Environment and Natural Resources Division (2018-21); Acting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Division (2020-21)

Theodore J Wold, Acting Assistant Attorney General for Office of Legal Policy (2020-21)

Craig Morford, Acting Deputy Attorney General (2007-08); U.S. Attorney, Middle District of Tennessee (2006-07); U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Michigan (2004-05); Assistant U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Ohio (1987-2004)

Marc Marie, Senior Counsel, Environment and Natural Resources Division (2020-21)

Katharine T Sullivan, Performing the Duties of Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs, Acting Director of Office on Violence Against Women (2018-21)

Jonathan Brightbill, Environment and Natural Resources Division (2017-21)

Eric J. Soskin, Senior Trial Counsel (2006-20)

Paul R. Moore, Assistant U.S. Attorney and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney (2001-10)

Janie Nitze, Office of Legal Counsel (2012-16)

Prerak Shah, Acting U.S. Attorney of Northern District of Texas (2001); First Assistant U.S. Attorney (2020-21); Deputy Assistant Attorney General (2020); Deputy Associate Attorney General (2019-20)

Mark D. Lytle, Associate Deputy Attorney General (2020); Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Virginia (2002-19)

John V. Coghlan, Deputy Assistant Attorney General (2020-21)

Victoria Toensing, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Michigan (1976-80); Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division (1984-88)

Joseph E. DiGenova, U.S. Attorney, District of Columbia (1983-88); Independent Counsel of the United States (1992-95); Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Columbia (1972-75); Counsel to the Attorney General (1976)

James Burnham, Senior Counsel (2017-18); Deputy Assistant Attorney General (2018-20); Counselor to the Attorney General (2020)

Jesse Panuccio, Acting Associate Attorney General and/or Principal Deputy Associate Attorney General (2017-19)

Anthony M. Shults, Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General and Senior Counsel, Office of Legal Policy (2019-21); Attorney-Advisor, National Security Division (2017-2019, 2021)

Scott G. Stewart, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division (2017-21)

Ryan Newman, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Policy (2017); Counselor to the Attorney General (2020)

Bethany Pickett Shah, Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General (2017-19); Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Texas (2020-21)

Daniel D. Mauler, Civil Division Trial Attorney (2018-21)

Justin Anderson, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Southern District of New York (2009-15)

Dominick S. Gerace II, Assistant U.S. Attorney/Deputy Criminal Chief, Eastern District of Virginia/Southern District of Ohio (2012-21)

Makan Delrahim, Assistant Attorney General (2017-21); Deputy Assistant Attorney General (2003-05); Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee (2000-03)

Christopher Grieco, Associate Deputy Attorney General (2018-21)

Gary Barnett, Former Acting Chief of Staff and Senior Counselor to the Attorney General

Brian Cohen, Associate Director, Office of Intergovernmental & Public Liaison (2005-08)

Brian C. Rabbitt, Chief of Staff and Senior Counselor to the Attorney General (2019-20); Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division (2020)