

June 23, 2025

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Chairman, Judiciary Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

We, the signatories below, are all former federal law enforcement officers who write in support of the confirmation of Emil Joseph Bove III as a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Mr. Bove began his legal career clerking for Judge Richard Sullivan on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and Judge Richard Wesley on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Following his clerkships, Mr. Bove went on to work as an Associate at Sullivan & Cromwell and then as a federal prosecutor in the Southern District of New York for nearly a decade.

As a federal prosecutor, Mr. Bove worked closely with law enforcement partners prosecuting national security and narcotics cases. Notably, Mr. Bove was part of a team that investigated and prosecuted Juan Antonio Hernandez Alvarado, a Honduran congressman, for a drug-importation conspiracy that involved at least 185,000 kilograms of cocaine, approximately \$138.5 million in drug proceeds, multiple murders, and related weapons offenses. Mr. Bove also played a vital role in the investigation, trial, sentencing, and appeal of Efrain Campo Flores and Francisco Flores De Freitas, the nephews of Venezuelan de-facto leader Nicolas Maduro. In 2016, the jury convicted the defendants of conspiring to import cocaine into the United States to help their family stay in power.

Following his public service, Mr. Bove spent three years in the private sector where he represented criminal defense clients. Mr. Bove's prosecutorial background provided him with the necessary experience to successfully serve as a prominent defense attorney. Mr. Bove's diverse portfolio demonstrates a unique understanding of our nation's judicial system.

Since January 2025, Mr. Bove has been serving in a top role in the Department of Justice. During this time, Mr. Bove has prioritized putting an end to our nation's drug-related national security, public safety, and public health crisis. To accomplish this mission, Mr. Bove works tirelessly with the Department of Justice's law enforcement components such as the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Marshals Service, and the

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, along with countless other federal and state law enforcement partners.

Among his many accomplishments as a senior Justice Department official, Mr. Bove helped secure the custody of 29 defendants from Mexico who are facing charges in the United States for racketeering, drug-trafficking, murder, illegal use of firearms, money laundering, and other crimes. The 29 fugitive cartel members that will be facing justice in the United States includes Rafael Caro Quintero, who is indicted for allegedly ordering the kidnapping, torture, and murder of DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena in 1985. Quintero's transfer would not have been possible without the Attorney General and Mr. Bove's commitment to seeking justice for Special Agent Camarena's family. Mr. Bove was part of the DOJ leadership team that, understanding the gravity of this moment, personally connected with Agent Camarena's widow and son during a moment that was extraordinarily significant to all of us seeking justice for the Camarena family.

In particular, Mr. Bove has worked hand-in-hand with the DEA to dismantle transnational criminal networks responsible for trafficking fentanyl, synthetic opioids, and other deadly substances into our communities. His deep understanding of the DEA's mission and his support for aggressive, lawful enforcement efforts make him a trusted and respected partner. His efforts have directly contributed to high-impact cases that have saved lives and protected vulnerable populations. He has also been a vocal advocate for improving coordination between prosecutors and front-line agents, recognizing that successful outcomes rely on mutual respect and seamless teamwork.

Mr. Bove's leadership reflects both strategic vision and operational excellence—qualities that will serve the judiciary well. Mr. Bove's commitment to justice, public safety, and upholding the rule of law are why we believe he is the ideal candidate to serve on the Third Circuit. We strongly urge you to support his confirmation.

Derek S. Maltz  
Former DEA Acting Administrator

Sandalio Gonzalez  
Ret. Supervisory Special Agent

Keith G. Kruskall  
Ret. DEA Deputy Special Agent in Charge

Robert Zachariasiewicz  
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