

August 4, 2026

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

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

Re: Nomination of Adam Candeub as Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We write as former appointees and leaders of the Department of Justice and its Antitrust Division to endorse Adam Candeub's nomination and urge his prompt confirmation as Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division.

In the century since the Antitrust Division was established, some of the great legal giants of our age, including Robert Jackson, Thurman Arnold, and Douglas Ginsburg, have led it. Adam Candeub has the experience and the qualifications to live up to that storied legacy. In recent years, the field these men shaped has been transformed by a debate over how technology, the internet, social media, and now artificial intelligence bear on antitrust doctrine and its enforcement. The Division's next leader must be able to meet those questions with both intellectual seriousness and practical judgment. Mr. Candeub is uniquely qualified to do so.

Mr. Candeub brings a diverse professional background in private practice, academia, and government. He has practiced as a litigator at leading Washington, DC law firms. He has served in government in senior roles at the Federal Communications Commission, which works closely with the Justice Department on M&A review; the Office of the Associate Attorney General, which directly oversees the Antitrust Division; and as Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information and NTIA Administrator. He has served as an independent advocate and counselor on antitrust matters. And he has spent over two decades teaching and producing significant scholarship on antitrust and technology law that has been frequently cited by the U.S. Supreme Court and various federal courts of appeals.

That combination matters. His government service has demonstrated the leadership and management ability the Division's leadership demands, his private-sector experience has given him practical judgment, and his academic work will guide him in addressing the important policy questions the Department will face in the years ahead. Few candidates have credibly done all three.

Throughout his career, Mr. Candeub has promoted independent conservative views, consistent with the policy priorities of this Administration, while earning a reputation for integrity and for working productively with colleagues across the ideological divide. We do not all agree with every one of his views. But we agree that he has shown, in every setting he has worked in, the integrity, seriousness, and independence of judgment that the office requires, and that he can be trusted to enforce the law on its merits.

We urge the Committee to act favorably and expeditiously on his nomination.

Respectfully,

Omeed Assefi, Former Acting Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division

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

William P. Barr, Former Attorney General

Daniel William Bell, Former Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Attorney General

Ketan Bhirud, Former Associate Deputy Attorney General

Rachel Bissex, Former Deputy Chief of Staff and Counselor to the Attorney General

James Burnham, Deputy Assistant Attorney General (2018-2020), Counselor to the Attorney General (2020)

John V. Coghlan, Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Mike Costigan, Acting Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance

Joseph B. Edlow, Former Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Policy

Noel Francisco, Former Solicitor General

Jeffrey Hall, Senior Counsel to the Associate Attorney General

Hannah Kunasek, Former Special Assistant and Advisor to the Attorney General

Andrew Lelling, Former United States Attorney, District of Massachusetts

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

Clare Morrell, Advisor to the Attorney General, Deputy White House Liaison

Yaakov Roth, Former Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division

Prerak Shah, Former Acting US Attorney for NDTX, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, and Deputy Associate Attorney General

Matthew Sheehan, Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General (2018); Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General (2017-2018)

L. Mary Thomas, Former Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division

Jessica Vu, Former Counsel, Civil Rights Division

Theodore Wold, Former Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Policy