



WESTERN STATES SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

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September 5, 2025

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We are writing to express our strong support for the nomination of Sara Carter to serve as Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Ms. Carter is an excellent nominee with significant experience and a passion for getting the job done.

As Sheriffs, we deal with unique challenges every day. Our people put their lives on the line to combat human trafficking, drug smuggling, and violent crime perpetrated by sophisticated and well-funded cartels. Crimes that impact real people and have real victims. The cartels that perpetuate these crimes run billion-dollar enterprises with little to no regard for human life. To combat these cartels and address the drug epidemic facing our nation, Washington needs bold and innovative leadership. Ms. Carter is precisely who we need.

Ms. Carter's commitment to the truth, and firsthand experiences imbedded with our nation's military and law enforcement is proof that she has the determination to get the job done, as well as an understanding for what the men and women in uniform experience daily. Ms. Carter spent years bringing national attention to the often-unmitigated flow of drugs through our southern border. She exposed cartel operated tunnels used to smuggle drugs and people. Shining a light on human trafficking and the vicious crime that occurs along our southern border. Ms. Carter has worked with local, state, and federal authorities to bring national attention to these issues.

Ms. Carter has firsthand knowledge of the challenges we face and the criminal elements that we are up against. She has shown herself to be a tireless advocate for victims of crime and law enforcement. This is precisely the bold and innovative leadership that we need.

We strongly urge you to confirm Sara Carter as the next Director of ONDCP.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Dannels

Mark J. Dannels, Sheriff
Cochise County, AZ
President, WSSA

