

CHRISTINE A. VARNEY
WORLDWIDE PLAZA
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(212) 474-1140

May 16, 2013

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

As a former U.S. Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, I had the privilege of working closely with Mr. Tony West. I write to express my strong support of the nomination of Tony West to become the Associate Attorney General of the United States.

I know Mr. West to be an experienced lawyer, an extremely effective manager, and a person of integrity who has successfully championed the rights of the American public and the principles of fair play.

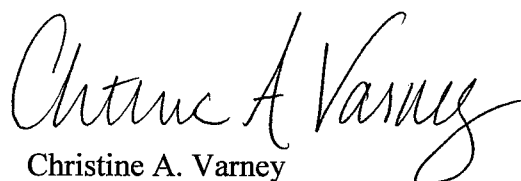
As Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Division, Tony West worked diligently to protect taxpayers and consumers and fought fraud in the health care and mortgage industries. Since January 2009, the Civil Division has used the False Claims Act to recover over \$8.8 billion in taxpayer money, which was lost to financial fraud and abuse, the largest three-year total in the Department's history. Mr. West also led the Department's investigation and filing of a civil lawsuit against the credit rating agency Standard & Poor's for allegedly engaging in a scheme to mislead the public and defraud investors in structured financial products. The investigation and lawsuit involved extensive collaboration with the offices of several state Attorneys General.

Under Acting Associate Attorney General West's leadership, the Department has prioritized economic competition through enforcement and guidance on antitrust laws and principles. In *U.S. v. Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV and Grupo Modelo S.A.B. de C.V.*, the Department reached a settlement that protected consumers by ensuring that the proposed \$20.1 billion acquisition would not have an anti-competitive effect on the market. The Department has also reached a settlement with five book publishers and is litigating against Apple Inc. for conspiring to substantially increase the prices that consumers pay for e-books by ending e-book retailers' freedom to compete on price. The Department also charged a company called AU Optronics for conspiring to fix prices on LCD panels – in *U.S. v. AU Optronics Corp* the Department secured a criminal fine of \$1.39 billion.

Furthermore, Mr. West's outstanding experience as a lawyer in private practice, as an assistant U.S. Attorney, and special assistant attorney general for the state of California, where he worked on matters including identity theft, high-tech crime, and anti-trust litigation render him well qualified to perform the important duties of this position.

Mr. West's extensive legal experience, effective management of complex litigation, and vigorous advocacy for consumers and the integrity of the market place has been essential in the Department's efforts to protect the American people and the federal government from fraud, financial abuse, and anti-competitive conduct. For the above reasons, I hope that the Senate will promptly confirm Mr. West to serve as the Associate Attorney General for the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Christine A. Varney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christine" and last name "Varney" clearly legible.

Christine A. Varney
U.S. Assistant Attorney General, 2009-2011
Partner, Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Minority Member, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
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