

February 24, 2025

U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington D.C., 20510

To the members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Mac Babb and I am the Chief of Police for the Virginia Tech Police Department. I am writing this letter in support of Terrance "Terry" C. Cole for the position of Administrator for the Drug Enforcement Administration. I have worked with Terry Cole over the last 20 months in his current role as the Virginia Secretary for Public Safety and Homeland Security. In that time, Cole has served with distinction through effective communication, extensive collaboration and unwavering support for all public safety agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In the area of communication, Secretary Cole demonstrated his ability to communicate and bring agencies together. In the early days of his office, Secretary Cole and his staff made an concerted effort to get in front of agencies across the Commonwealth. This level of communication was unheard of, especially in Southwestern Virginia. Cole solidified these relationships by maintaining consistent contact moving forward. He regularly sought input from across the state and brought various stakeholder groups together to discuss problems and potential solutions.

Secretary Cole's strategic planning and support on key initiatives have also been important to his success in Virginia. Cole was able to elevate several high-profile issues that regularly impacted Virginians. Working across the state, he provided support to agencies and united them in addressing issues such as violent crime and the fentanyl epidemic. It was evident that Secretary Cole had a keen understanding of these issues anchored by his time at DEA. As a result, Virginia saw positive results come from programs and/or initiatives coordinated through his office.

In today's environment, it will be critical for the next Administrator of the DEA to be able to effectively communicate throughout the agency, provide purposeful direction and instill a collaborative spirit in order to meet the challenges that are before us. Terry Cole has demonstrated through a lifetime of service and dedication that he has the necessary skills to lead the DEA and I offer my support for his nomination.

Sincerely,



William M. Babb, III  
Chief of Police  
Virginia Tech Police