OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

FAUOUIER COUNTY

An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

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Adult Detention Center (540) 422-8700



Jeremy A. Falls

Sheriff

March 13, 2025

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Criminal Investigations (540) 422-8650

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley Senate President pro tempore 135 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley,

As Sheriff of Fauquier County, Virginia, I am personally compelled to submit this letter of strong support for Terrance C. "Terry" Cole as President Trump's nominee to lead the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). As the Virginia Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, his unwavering commitment to public safety, his leadership in combatting the fentanyl crisis and his dedication to collaborative efforts with local law enforcement have made him exceptionally qualified for this critical role.

Throughout his tenure, Secretary Cole has been at the forefront of the fight against fentanyl and other illicit drugs that continue to devastate communities across the nation. Under his leadership, Virginia has implemented aggressive enforcement strategies targeting drug trafficking networks while also championing prevention and treatment initiatives. His comprehensive approach has not only disrupted the flow of deadly substances but has also prioritized saving lives through enhanced public awareness and community outreach programs.

A hallmark of Secretary Cole's leadership is his strong partnership with local law enforcement agencies. He has consistently fostered a culture of cooperation, ensuring that state and federal resources are effectively leveraged to support frontline officers. In my capacity as Sheriff of Fauquier County, I have witnessed firsthand his commitment to ensuring that local agencies have the tools, intelligence and support necessary to combat drug-related crime. His ability to bridge the gap between federal and local law enforcement has strengthened operations against major drug distribution networks and improved public safety at every level.

At a time when our country is grappling with a historic opioid crisis, we need a DEA leader who has the determination, the vision, experience and dedication to drive impactful change. I have witnessed the fact that Secretary Cole embodies these qualities. His track record of decisive action, combined with his deep understanding of law enforcement challenges, uniquely position him to lead the DEA with effectiveness and integrity.

Secretary Cole has more than 28 years of successful law enforcement experience, 22 years of which were spent with the DEA. He has extensive experience both nationally and internationally in combating the drug crisis that challenges law enforcement every day.

Secretary Cole earned his Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice from Rochester Institute of Technology and also earned certificates in leadership from the University of Virginia, as well as from the University of Notre Dame.

I strongly urge you to confirm Secretary Cole for this important position of leadership of the DEA. His management, skills and knowledge will undoubtedly enhance our nation's efforts in the battle against drug trafficking and addiction. Virginia and America will benefit greatly from having Mr. Cole at the helm of this important agency.

Please feel free to contact me if I may provide any additional insights regarding Secretary Cole's superb qualifications.

Sincerely,

Jeremy A. Falls, MPA

Sheriff