

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 6, 2013

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The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee
437 Russell Senate Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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Re: Nomination of B. Todd Jones as Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Director

Dear Chairman Leahy:

We write to express our enthusiastic support for President Obama's nomination of B. Todd Jones to serve as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). Mr. Jones has served the American people with distinction for the past 30 years in a variety of capacities.

For the last two years, Mr. Jones has been Acting Director for the ATF. During this time, he has effectively and diligently overseen the agency's wide ranging law enforcement efforts to protect the American public against illegal use of guns, and the illegal diversion of alcohol, tobacco and explosives.

Mr. Jones has served simultaneously as United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota, where he has been a persistent, determined leader. As U.S. Attorney, Mr. Jones has been a staunch defender of the rule of law and has worked tirelessly with federal, state, county and local officials to keep communities safe by prosecuting violent and organized criminals.

The Senate has not confirmed an ATF director since the position was changed to require Senate confirmation in 2006. This is a disservice to the agency and its important work.

The American public is focused on the need for strong leadership to protect against the devastating consequences of illegal guns and illegal trafficking of firearms. We support the President's efforts to take sensible steps to reduce gun violence, including the appointment and confirmation of an ATF director.

Mr. Jones has demonstrated sound judgment and effective leadership, and would be a well-qualified Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. We urge his swift confirmation.

Sincerely,





	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	