

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

The Conservative Political Action Coalition (CPAC) is the nation's oldest grassroots advocacy organization. Founded over 50 years ago, CPAC has a track record of advancing policies that reduce the size of government, protect liberty, and ensure the safety of the communities we live in. As part of our work to achieve these goals, CPAC established the Prosecutors & Law Enforcement Advisory Council to represent a wide swath of elected and appointed prosecutors at all levels of government who are viewed as leaders on public safety, common sense improvements to our justice system, and fighting the recent weaponization of our government. After careful consideration, we are confident Kash Patel is the clear choice to serve as the next Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Public safety is at a crossroads as trust in federal law enforcement agencies has been eroded after four years of politicization and weaponization of the criminal justice system. Americans' trust in the FBI has continued to decline at a time when the threats to the homeland continue to grow. Instead of prioritizing the ongoing fentanyl crisis, recent increases in violent crime, and the threat from organized cartels, partisan justice officials diverted resources to efforts that harassed parents at school board meetings and surveilled Catholics for simply attending religious services. Prosecutors across the country have also felt the effects of these misguided policies as they work every day to ensure the rule of law is followed and communities are protected from violent criminals. Mr. Patel is overwhelmingly qualified to refocus the FBI on prioritizing the safety and well-being of the American public it serves.

A native New Yorker, Mr. Patel is a graduate of the University of Richmond and received his Juris Doctorate from the Pace University School of Law while also obtaining a certificate in international law from the University College of London, England. He began his legal career serving as a state and federal public defender in Miami-Dade County, Florida then moving into a role as a trial attorney with the Department of Justice's National Security Division. By 2017, he was appointed as a senior counsel and aide to the House Intelligence Committee, identifying and setting policy on the constantly evolving threats facing our nation. Serving on both sides of the criminal justice system early in his career gives Mr. Patel a unique perspective on ensuring the Bureau can protect public safety while ensuring civil liberties are protected. From these roles, he was nominated by President Trump to serve as a Senior Director of

Counterterrorism at the National Security Council, Principal deputy with the Director of National Intelligence, and Chief of Staff the Secretary of Defense. Once again, Mr. Patel distinguished himself in these roles identifying the significant threats to the homeland and ensuring a plan was in place to keep the American people safe and secure.

The diversity of Mr. Patel's resume, serving as a public defender, prosecutor, and intelligence expert, makes him exceptionally qualified to be the next leader of the FBI. The American people want their faith in law enforcement restored and prosecutors are looking for partners at the federal level to achieve true community safety following four years of failed leadership. The brave men and women serving in law enforcement and prosecution across the country will benefit immensely from Kash Patel's confirmation as Director of the FBI and we proud to join an impressive list of public safety voices supporting his confirmation.

Should you have any questions or concerns, you can reach me at frusso@conservative.org.

Frank W. Russo Jr.

Director, CPAC Foundation's Prosecutor Advisory Council