

November 4, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking member
Senate Judiciary Committee
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Grassley:

We, the undersigned groups, representing state and local [elected officials](#), criminal justice systems, and practitioners, write in support of the nomination of Michael Botticelli to become permanent Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Mr. Botticelli has distinguished himself while in the role of Acting Director at ONDCP. He provides sound leadership on the multi-faceted issues of drug abuse prevention and treatment and the enforcement of crimes of the trafficking in drugs.

As Deputy Director and, now, as Acting Director of ONDCP, Mr. Botticelli has helped to shape the Obama Administration's National Drug Control Strategy, the Administration's blueprint for ending drug abuse and drug-related crimes. The annual document sets out the Administration's strategy for disrupting and suppressing drug trafficking organizations that foster a culture of gang violence, flood our neighborhoods with narcotics and other illegal drugs, and prey on our children. Under Acting Director Botticelli's leadership, the National Strategy also puts increasing priority on the prevention of drug abuse and treatment for those who abuse drugs. This vibrant three-pronged strategy is helping to break down barriers across government agencies and among non-profit service providers so that policymakers and practitioners are able to more effectively identify and deploy tools and approaches that work to reduce drug abuse and drug-related crimes.

Acting Director Botticelli's compelling personal story of addiction and recovery is a powerful testament to those working to fight addiction and end the scourge of drugs in our communities. He is the right person at the right time to lead ONDCP. We support his nomination as permanent Director with enthusiasm.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

*National Criminal Justice Association
Major Cities Chiefs Association
United States Conference of Mayors
Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators
Pretrial Justice Institute
Association of Prosecuting Attorneys
Police Foundation
TASC Illinois*