



Drug Enforcement Association of Federal Narcotics Agents

United States Senate
Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

February 10, 2025

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

The Drug Enforcement Administration Association of Federal Narcotics Agents (DEAFNA) is comprised of current and former Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents and personnel who support the DEA in its mission of drug law enforcement.

As you know, the United States is dealing with the worst drug related national security, public safety, and public health crisis in our history. Fentanyl's impact on our communities is devastating, causing irreparable harm to families and triggering crushing economic hardship. Two Mexican Cartels, working with precursor chemical distributors in China, are primarily responsible for the production, transportation, and distribution of this deadly drug. In addition to fentanyl, the production and distribution of methamphetamine, cocaine, and captagon enable criminal enterprises through illicit finance, which destabilizes regions, leads to significant violence, and funds terrorist organizations like Hezbollah. The impact of these transnational criminal organizations degrades our security and causes staggering human and economic impact throughout American communities large and small.

The United States Deputy Attorney General (DAG) is as you are aware the second highest ranking official of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) and oversees the day-to-day operation of the department. In the absence of the attorney general the deputy attorney general acts as attorney general. It is of utmost importance to the public safety and national security of America that this position be held by a highly qualified capable individual with the experience and dedication to conduct this important mission.

We wholeheartedly support the nomination of Todd Blanche for Deputy Attorney General. His notable legal career is marked by significant roles in public and private practice where his commitment to a fair justice system in America and his work on both sides of the courtroom highlights his ability to navigate the complexities of our criminal justice system. Mr. Blanche has an accomplished noteworthy career as a highly respected prosecutor in the Southern district of New York (SDNY) where he elevated through the ranks of America's most elite prosecutors and served as the co-chief of both the Violent Crimes Unit and the White Plains Division. In this capacity he prosecuted some of America's most violent gang members and managed cases involving bank and wire fraud, public corruption, and racketeering. It was in these roles that he obtained extensive experience in complex criminal prosecutions.

Mr. Blanches commitment to justice, public safety, and high ethical standards demonstrates a record of success in prosecuting complex cases. We believe he is an ideal candidate for this extremely vital role with the U.S. Department of Justice.

DEAFNA highly recommends President Elect Donald J. Trump's nominee Todd Blanche. For questions and additional information, please contact executive.director@afna.org. Thank you for your attention to this vitally important matter.

Marshall Fisher
President, Drug Enforcement Association of Federal Narcotics Agents
Office: 703-729-6865
executive.director@afna.org
Web: afna.org

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