

July 8, 2013

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
The United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
The United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Bipartisan Endorsement of Jim Comey to be FBI Director from Former Senior Department of Justice Officials

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are friends, admirers, and former Justice Department colleagues of Jim Comey, and we write in strong bipartisan support of his nomination to be the next Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. All of us have held, at one time or another, senior positions within the Justice Department, giving us both a perspective on what Jim's prior positions have demanded of him and how Jim's experience and personal qualities have prepared him to be the Director.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation fulfills an important role in our society, ensuring our safety and preserving our liberty. It is also a remarkably complex organization – its men and women serve around the globe and around the clock, in extraordinarily important and difficult assignments. In turn, we know, from our own experience, what it takes to lead the FBI – integrity, intelligence, independence, dedication, vision, compassion, judgment, and a steadfast adherence to the rule of law.

Jim Comey possesses all of these traits. He has, for instance, the judgment that comes from experience and from having faced difficult decisions. He has integrity and independence born of his innate sense of what is required of senior public servants. He is smart and compassionate. He never expects more of anybody else than he expects of himself.

We know he will be a strong and effective leader and that our country would be well-served to see him confirmed.

Respectfully,

Lanny Breuer
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
2009-2013

Paul Clement
Solicitor General
2005-2008

Jamie Gorelick
Deputy Attorney General
1994-1997

Neal Katyal
Acting Solicitor General
2010-2011

Peter Keisler
Acting Attorney General
2007

Craig Morford
Acting Deputy Attorney General
2007-2008

Eileen J. O'Connor
Assistant Attorney General
Tax Division
2001-2007

David Ogden
Deputy Attorney General
2009-2010

Larry Thompson
Deputy Attorney General
2001-2003

Christopher Wray
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
2003-2005