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March 13, 2013

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Via Fax to 202-224-9516

RECEIVED MAR 14 2013

RE: Nomination of B. Todd Jones as ATF Director

Dear Chairman:

I write to express my unequivocal support for United States Attorney B. Todd Jones and his professional abilities as the chief federal prosecutor for the District of Minnesota. I currently serve as the Rice County Attorney and have served as the County Attorney since 1999. I also served as the immediate past president of the Minnesota County Attorney's Association and am a current member of the MCAA. I have known U.S. Attorney Jones both personally and professionally for several years, starting with his first stint as United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota.

My office and staff have worked closely with the U.S. Attorney's Office on several criminal matters during both of U.S. Attorney Jones's tenures as the United States Attorney between 1998 and 2001 and since 2009. The U.S. Attorney's Office, under Mr. Jones's leadership, has always adhered to the highest professional and ethical standards in prosecuting criminal matters. Most importantly, Mr. Jones and his staff have always diligently cooperated with and supported local law enforcement and state prosecutors. B. Todd Jones places a high priority on being respectful of the primacy of the state's role in concurrent jurisdiction matters—always putting justice for the citizens of Minnesota as the first and foremost goal. For example, the U.S. Attorney's Office consulted with my office on a recent child pornography case in which it was decided to prosecute the offender in both State and Federal court given the extensive nature of the charges and the crimes alleged. The U.S. Attorney's Office has also willingly assumed jurisdiction over a significant controlled substance crime case from my office that had broader implications in the federal criminal conspiracy context. Additionally, Mr. Jones's office counseled and reviewed a request for assistance in a recent assisted-suicide prosecution that implicated international boundaries and use of the Internet. In all these matters, our offices worked together to mutually

Letter in Support of B. Todd Jones

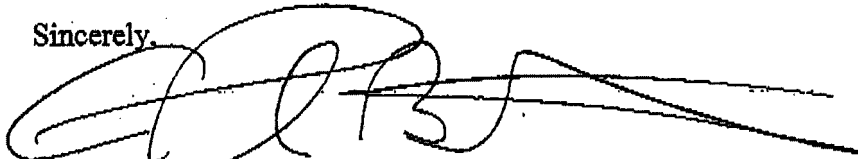
March 13, 2013

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determine the best course of action to obtain justice and to hold those offenders involved accountable for their alleged crimes. U.S. Attorney Jones has also exemplified his and his office's support for local prosecutors by regularly attending and participating in MCAA Board meetings and by representation on the statutorily authorized Violent Crime Coordinating Council.

I recommend and support U.S. Attorney Jones without any reservation both in his current role as the United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota and for his nomination as head of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. I have no doubt that U.S. Attorney Jones possesses the leadership abilities, management skills, and sound professional and work ethic to effectively and efficiently lead the ATF. B. Todd Jones offers the citizens of the United States the decisive, clear-thinking leader we need for the ATF.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Paul Beaumaster', written over a horizontal line.

G. Paul Beaumaster
Rice County Attorney

GPB:sld