



Florida Department of
Law Enforcement

Gerald M. Bailey
Commissioner

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February 12, 2013

Honorable Patrick Leahy
United States Senate
437 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Acting Director B. Todd Jones as the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. As the Commissioner of the Department of Law Enforcement, a statewide agency responsible for investigative and forensic services across Florida, I recognize the importance of strong partnerships between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. Since his appointment as Acting Director in September 2011, Director Jones has been an effective leader and strong partner on many of the violent crime issues confronting our communities. Specifically, in 2012, under Director Jones' leadership, ATF placed highly experienced leaders in key positions who have enhanced working relationships with Florida law enforcement.

Our nation's violent crime issues mandate the creation of strong multi-agency partnerships to maximize intelligence-driven initiatives, effective communication and the use of technology. A critical tool in combating violent crime is the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN). Director Jones has been instrumental in the implementation of this technology in our crime laboratories and NIBIN has proven to be invaluable in the identification and linkage of gun-related data to crime scenes.

Having served as the Commissioner of FDLE for over six years, I personally know the value of having a constant, reliable leader directing a law enforcement agency. Based on my own experience, I believe that ATF will also benefit from the steady leadership of a confirmed Director. I respectfully request the Senate Judiciary Committee confirm Mr. Jones as the Director of the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Sincerely,



Gerald M. Bailey
Commissioner

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