



**EDWIN M. LEE**  
MAYOR

**POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

THOMAS J. CAHILL HALL OF JUSTICE  
850 BRYANT STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103-4603



**GREGORY P. SUHR**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

May 15, 2013

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

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Minority Member, Judiciary Committee  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Grassley:

I am writing to express my support for the appointment of Tony West to the position of Associate Attorney General for the United States. Mr. West currently is serving in this position in an acting capacity since March 2012.

I have known Mr. West personally and professionally for many years. His knowledge and experience, as well as his deep, personal commitment to public safety and excellence in law enforcement, make him an excellent candidate for this position.

As the Chief of Police for the City and County of San Francisco, I am responsible for the safety of those who live, work, and visit our great city. Throughout my career, I know that partnerships with other local, state, and federal agencies, including the Justice Department, are an integral part of protecting our community. From his time as a front-line prosecutor in the San Francisco Bay Area, Mr. West fully understands the importance of this teamwork approach by working with law enforcement officers and federal agents to successfully prosecute those who choose to commit violent crimes.

During his tenure in the Justice Department, Mr. West continued his focus on public safety and law enforcement issues. He held companies accountable for knowingly manufacturing and selling defective bulletproof vests used by law enforcement, an act which compromised the safety of those who risk their lives daily to protect others. As Acting Associate Attorney General, he worked to improve the safety and wellness of our nation's sworn peace officers through the National Officer Safety and Wellness Group. In short, his career has been defined by a longstanding and genuine commitment to not only public safety, but to those peace officers who are tasked with providing this essential service to our communities.

Mr. West has a list of achievements rivaled by few which were well earned. I can personally vouch for his character and the perspective he brought to the table on the many complicated issues we faced here in San Francisco. I have every confidence in Tony West and know he is

Letter to Judiciary Committee

Page 2

May 15, 2013

---

well-qualified to serve as the Associate Attorney General. He would be an asset to our national security in this position.

Thank you for your time in considering this request. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information you may want. I can be reached at (415) 553-1551 or my cell at (415) 601-4483.

Sincerely,

  
**GREGORY P. SUHR**  
Chief of Police

gs/cf