



WASHINGTON BUREAU · NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
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January 7, 2014

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

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: NAACP STRONG SUPPORT FOR DEBO P. ADEGBILE TO SERVE AS ASSISTANT
ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR CIVIL RIGHTS**

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the NAACP, our nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization, I strongly urge you to support the nomination of Debo P. Adebile to serve as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, and to do everything possible to move his confirmation as quickly as possible through the U.S. Senate. Mr. Adebile is not only intimately familiar with the civil rights problems and challenges of racial and ethnic minorities throughout the United States, but he also has a proven track record in taking a proactive approach to implementing long term, permanent solutions to these problems. Mr. Adebile is an inspired choice to lead the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, and will add a much-needed energy and expertise to the vital work of the Division.

Debo Adebile is no stranger to the legal and civil and human rights communities, or to the NAACP specifically. For more than a decade, Mr. Adebile has been a leading voice in the civil rights community on issues as varied as voting rights, equal opportunity programs, disability rights, civil rights, the rights of victims of domestic violence, human rights, and housing rights. Mr. Adebile has also argued numerous civil rights cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, including twice defending the constitutionality of the Voting Rights Act. Mr. Adebile's intelligence, his judicial temperament, as well as his willingness to work with all involved parties and his broad legal experience focusing on civil rights is well known to and respected by many in the U.S. Senate, given his current position as Senior Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Thank you in advance for your attention to the NAACP position. I strongly urge you once again to support Debo Adegbile's swift and non-contentious confirmation to serve as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office at (202) 463-2940.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hilary O. Shelton', with a stylized, flowing script.

Hilary O. Shelton
Director, NAACP Washington Bureau &
Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Policy

CC: Members, Senate Judiciary Committee