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March 14, 2013

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

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Karol V. Mason

Dear Chairman Leahy and Senator Grassley,

I am enclosing the following document, which was listed under Question 12d of my Questionnaire but not included in the attachment: April 16, 2010, Talking Points, Quarterly meeting of the Attorney General's Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, as Deputy Associate Attorney General."

Sincerely,



Karol V. Mason

Enclosure

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Talking Points
Quarterly Meeting of
AG's Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention
April 16, 2010

- When the Attorney General served as the Deputy Attorney General, he led an interagency effort to address the issue of children exposed to violence. This effort led to development of a program called Safe Start, a highly successful multi-year demonstration project. While we have made some progress and learned more about the different types of interventions that can be successful, children continue to face extremely troubling realities. Our research tells us that children exposed to violence are at a higher risk for school failure, delinquency, gang involvement, and criminal behavior in adulthood.
- The current Initiative, with the working title “the Attorney General’s Children Exposed to Violence Initiative,” is a multi-year effort to (a) reduce childhood exposure to violence, (b) increase knowledge and awareness of the causes and characteristics of children exposed to violence, and (c) reduce the negative impact of children’s exposure to violence. The Initiative plans to build on the findings and conclusions of Safe Start, as well as other Department efforts and programs. We also hope to build on the findings and conclusions from each of your agencies’ work in this area.
- Phelan Wyrick, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs and I are co-leading this initiative for the Department of Justice.
- On March 17th, the Department convened a meeting of experts, so that we could learn from them about strategies that have proven to be successful in reducing children’s exposure to violence and in mitigating the negative impacts of these exposures.
- On March 31st, the Department released grant announcements of more than \$5 million to address the high incidence of American children’s exposure to violence. The solicitations target planning, outreach, research, and best practices.
- Demonstration Project. A key component of the Initiative is a demonstration project, which will be divided into planning and implementation phases. During the planning phase, the Department will fund up to eight sites to develop comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approaches to address the needs of children (ages 0 – 18) exposed to violence. Two of the eight sites will be awarded to tribal communities

- For the implementation phase, the Department will fund up to four sites (one tribal) for the comprehensive delivery of services. During both phases, the sites will receive technical assistance and training. For those initial sites not selected for the implementation phase (and for other applicants), the Department plans to make seed grants available. The solicitation for the planning sites was released on March 31, 2010.
- Funding. For FY 2010, the Initiative will largely be funded by appropriations allotted for the Children and Youth Exposed to Violence Grant Program, created by the Violence Against Women Act of 2005, OJJDP's Tribal Youth Grants, and OVC. On February 1, 2010, the President released the 2011 budget, which included a request for \$37 million for the Initiative.
- Department Working Group. The Department's working group includes representatives from the Office of Justice Programs, including the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office of Victims of Crime, the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The Office on Violence Against Women and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, as well as representatives from the Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys and the FBI are part of the core working group.
- Interagency Partnerships will be critical to the success of this Initiative. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education are partners in this Initiative with the Department of Justice
- We would like to have the other agencies represented on the JJ Council to become our partners in this Initiative as well.
- The ideal individual will:
 - Have a leadership role within the agency, to serve as the agency's spokesperson on the larger working group committee.
 - Be able to bring the right agency representatives to the table to join our working groups.
 - Have an understanding of the resources available within the agency to support the initiative.
 - Be in a position to gain commitments of agency resources to support the initiative.
 - Have knowledge of the issues and a passion to join in developing solutions.
 - Be able to commit time to this initiative and to attend meetings.