

March 2, 2013

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

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

**Re: Nomination of Karol V. Mason as Assistant Attorney General
for the Office of Justice Programs of the U.S. Department of Justice**

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley,

Having served as Assistant Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) for nearly 10 years during two administrations, I write to express my support for the confirmation of Karol V. Mason for that position.

As you know, OJP's mission is unlike that of other components in the U.S. Department of Justice. But its role is a vital one -- supporting innovation and knowledge development about "what works" in addressing crime, and serving as the link between the Department and states, localities and tribal communities on criminal and juvenile justice and assistance to victims of crime. Having worked closely with Ms. Mason for my three years in the Obama Justice Department, I believe she has the qualities needed to lead OJP as Assistant Attorney General.

During her tenure as Deputy Associate Attorney General at the Justice Department from 2009 through the beginning of 2012, Ms. Mason worked hand-in-hand with not only OJP, but also with the Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Office and the Violence Against Women Office, as well as the Community Relations Service and the Tax Division. During my work with Ms. Mason, I saw a person of great integrity and intellect, and was impressed with her

leadership skills in bringing together different parts of the Department and different agencies in productive collaborations; frequently, these also involved outside organizations and communities. I was struck from the beginning of our working relationship with Ms. Mason's ability to bring people together, work out solutions to problems, and, in a non-bureaucratic fashion, get results -- whether the subject was streamlining Department grants for tribal communities, exploring avenues to assist New Orleans in addressing its criminal justice problems, or finding comprehensive ways to help children exposed to violence.

This set of leadership skills, as well as her talent at collaboration, are particularly needed at this time of challenges in government. I encourage your prompt action on her nomination, and appreciate the opportunity to provide these views.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Robinson

Laurie O. Robinson
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Assistant Attorney General, 1993 - 2000
and 2009 - 2012