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April 9, 2013

The Honorable Patrick Leahy Chairman The Honorable Chuck Grassley Ranking Member Senate Committee on the Judiciary 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the National District Attorneys Association, the oldest and largest organization representing America's state and local prosecutors, we'd like to offer our full support for the nomination of B. Todd Jones to become the next Director of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) within the U.S. Department of Justice.

State and local prosecutors handle 95% of the criminal prosecutions nationally and issues related to alcohol, tobacco, and especially firearms directly impact cases we prosecute. Todd Jones is an experienced and highly-respected leader in the law enforcement community. As a former Marine officer he has demonstrated the highest character and commitment to protecting our communities. As a private attorney, Todd Jones provided effective and ethical representation to clients and was a leader in championing diversity within the private bar. As the United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota, he has been an innovative partner with local and state prosecutors to maximize penalties for violent criminals. As the Acting Director of the ATF, Todd Jones has focused the agency's mission and reached out to local and state partners to engage them in new strategies to combat gun violence.

The National District Attorneys Association believes that with Todd Jones's diverse and impressive life experiences and his stellar reputation in the criminal justice system, he will bring leadership and stability to ATF that has been lacking since 2006. We are happy to offer our full support for B. Todd Jones's nomination to serve as Director of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and encourage his swift confirmation by the Senate.

Michael S. Wright

President

cc: Barack Obama, President of the United States Eric Holder, United States Attorney General