



NADCP

**National Association of
Drug Court Professionals**

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West Huddleston

September 24, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) and more than 2,800 operational Drug Court programs nationwide, I write to express our support for the nomination of Acting Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to serve as the permanent Director of ONDCP.

Mr. Botticelli's commitment to effectively coordinate cross-agency policy initiatives is imperative at this critical point. The latest reports on drug overdoses and veterans with substance use disorders underscore the need for Mr. Botticelli's leadership. According to the CDC, 113 people die as a result of drug overdose every day in the U.S., and another 6,748 are treated in emergency departments for the misuse or abuse of drugs. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, an estimated 1.8 million veterans suffer from a substance abuse problem.

Mr. Botticelli has worked tirelessly for over two decades to expand innovative programs in prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery. Mr. Botticelli is a long time champion of Drug Courts. His work in Massachusetts to help implement and expand Drug Courts has saved the state millions of dollars and has saved countless lives. As Deputy Director of ONDCP, Mr. Botticelli was a national leader and advocate for Drug Courts, DWI Courts and Veterans Treatment Courts helping to advance the field and expand their growth.

NADCP strongly supports the confirmation of Mr. Michael Botticelli to serve as the permanent Director for ONDCP. We look forward to working with you as the confirmation process moves forward.

Sincerely,

West Huddleston
Chief Executive Officer

cc: United States Senate Judiciary Committee Members

