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May 16, 2013

Richard D. Parsons Senior Advisor

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy Chairman, Judiciary Committee United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley Ranking Minority Member, Judiciary Committee United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

As the former chairman of Citigroup, former CEO of Time Warner and current member of the Board of Directors for the Commission on Presidential Debates, I write to express my strong support for the nomination of Tony West to become the Associate Attorney General of the United States.

I know Mr. West both personally and by reputation and observation of his performance at the Department of Justice. I believe it important to have an Associate Attorney General who has his distinguished record of advocating for economic competitiveness and fair play.

Throughout his career, and in the role of Acting Associate Attorney General, Mr. West has championed economic competitiveness by combating the permutations of financial fraud that impair the investor climate and our nation's economic stability. During his tenure in the Civil Division, Mr. West collaborated with U.S. Attorneys' offices across the country to use the False Claims Act to combat health care fraud, mortgage fraud, procurement fraud, and grant fraud. This resulted in more recoveries than in any comparable period in the Department's history.

As Acting Associate Attorney General, Mr. West has prioritized the promotion of competition through enforcement of antitrust laws and the brokering of settlements that protect consumers while preventing anti-competitive effects on the market. Such as in *U.S. v. Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV and Grupo Modelo*, where the Department reached a settlement that protected consumers by ensuring that the proposed \$20.1 billion acquisition would not have an anti-competitive effect on the market.

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The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy The Honorable Charles E. Grassley May XX, 2013 Page 2

Mr. West's efforts to eliminate fraud and anti-competitive conduct make him a valued partner to the business community and an excellent candidate for Associate Attorney General. His work at the Department reflects his sound judgment, effective management, and commitment to principles that protect the integrity of our market economy.

Lastly, I know Mr. West to be a man of personal integrity, balance and compassion. In addition to being a highly competent attorney and administrator, he is also a good guy; the kind of person we need in public service.

For all of these reasons, therefore, I hope that the Senate will confirm Mr. West promptly to serve as the Associate Attorney General of the United States.

Sincerely,

**Richard Parsons**