

Robert D. McCallum, Jr.

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February 28, 2013
(Sent by email and by fax to (202) 224-9516)

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

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

Re: Nomination of Karol V. Mason for Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs

Gentlemen:

I am a former member of the Department of Justice, having served as the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division from 2001 to 2003 and as the Associate Attorney General from 2003 to 2006. From 2006 to 2009, I continued my government service in the Department of State as the U. S. Ambassador to Australia. All three of those positions required Senate confirmation, two beginning before your Judiciary Committee and the third before the Foreign Relations Committee.

Karol V. Mason, whom I know well and hold in especially high regard, has been nominated to become Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs. Given my experience with the confirmation process, I thought that it would be helpful to the majority and minority members of the Committee for me as a political appointee in a Republican administration to provide my perspective on her ability, integrity, judgment, and managerial skills.

Karol is quite simply one of the most talented, diligent, and effective people I have ever known. She was my law partner at the law firm of Alston & Bird before I left private practice for government service, and I had the great pleasure of watching her become one of the most influential and productive partners in the firm. To lawyers outside the firm, she became one of the best known and respected bond lawyers in the State of Georgia. Inside and outside the firm,

her integrity and candor were unquestioned. If Karol did it or said it, you could take it to the bank. In addition to the practice of law, she made remarkable contributions to her community in the arts, education, health care, and local government. She managed people with style, grace, and good humor. She is someone who both demanded and, by her own example, was able to get the very best from others working with her. Her fellow partners always marveled at how she found the time and energy to do it all. These accomplishments, in and of themselves, recommend her to you for this position.

In addition, Karol brings to this position a wealth of experience at DOJ and the Office of Justice Programs in particular. As a Deputy Associate Attorney General, she had oversight responsibility for the Office of Justice Programs and for other DOJ programmatic divisions. She is familiar with all of OJP's varied moving parts and grant processes. She played leadership roles in various initiatives coordinating activities between these grant making entities and the litigation/law enforcement sectors. My career colleagues at DOJ and the staff members of the ASG office all gave her rave reviews whenever I encountered them.

I strongly support Karol's nomination. I urge your Committee to act promptly in considering her nomination and forwarding it to the entire Senate for confirmation. Her confirmation will be a great benefit to DOJ and OJP. We need people like Karol in leadership roles in our federal, state, and local governments, and I am so proud of her for contributing to our country through her government service.

I stand ready to respond to any questions that you or any staff members may have about her qualifications for this important position. With that in mind, I am copying the staff members listed below with an email copy of this letter. Each of them should feel free to contact me at any time.

Yours,

ROBERT D. MCCALLUM, JR.

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