

January 17, 2025

Senator John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Charles B. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Lindsey Graham
Chair, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Dick Durbin
Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Todd Blanche to be Deputy Attorney General of the United States

Dear Senators Thune, Schumer, Graham, and Durbin:

We are more than one hundred former Assistant United States Attorneys who served alongside Todd Blanche in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. Some of us have since moved on to other forms of public service, while others have entered private practice, and we cover the gamut of intellectual, political, and legal ideologies. But we are united in our support for Todd's nomination to be the next Deputy Attorney General of the United States and write to share our perspective on his background and character.

As Todd's resume makes clear, he is dedicated to the ideals and institution of the United States Department of Justice. Upon graduating from college, Todd went to work as a Department of Justice paralegal in Washington, DC. Todd then attended law school at night in Brooklyn, while working full-time as a paralegal in the Southern District of New York. After graduating law school, Todd clerked for two federal judges, one of whom was appointed by a Democrat and the other a Republican, and both of whom had themselves been Assistant U.S. Attorneys in the Southern District. He worked very briefly in private practice, before returning to the Southern District as a line prosecutor, where he rose to supervise the Office's Violent Crimes Unit and, later, its White Plains Division. From the earliest stages of his professional life, Todd has demonstrated a love of, and dedication to, the Department of Justice and its mission: to do justice, to do the right thing, and to do them the right way.

We were fortunate to work with Todd, and saw how he puts the core values of the DOJ— independence, impartiality, honesty, integrity, respect, excellence, and a fierce dedication to fairness under the law—into practice. Todd is both deeply intelligent and has excellent judgment. As a prosecutor, Todd distinguished himself as a skilled courtroom advocate and trial lawyer, champion of public safety, and beloved mentor and friend. He always carefully considered the law and the evidence, as well as the interests of all parties, including the government, victims, society at large, and defendants themselves. Todd's focus was never simply on winning, but rather on achieving a just result. Victims counted themselves lucky to have Todd working on their behalf and knew that he would tirelessly advance their interests. Law enforcement agents sought him out on their

cases because they recognized his talent and dedication. So, too, did defense attorneys appreciate having Todd opposite them, as they knew he would be unfailingly gracious and transparent. Todd was famous for his ability to forge friendships with opposing counsel during even the most hotly contested proceedings, and he encouraged other AUSAs to do the same. Judges similarly appreciated Todd's ability to be a tenacious, zealous, and effective advocate, but also a fair one.

Perhaps most importantly, Todd is a fundamentally good and decent man. Time and again, we saw him strive to do the right thing as a person and a prosecutor. One of Todd's greatest strengths as a manager was his supervisees' well-earned trust and confidence that he would help them make the right decisions.

Todd's experience, character, intellect, openness to dialogue, and longstanding love of and belief in the mission of the DOJ make him eminently qualified to serve as Deputy Attorney General. More than 80 years ago, then-Attorney General—and, later, Supreme Court Justice—Robert Jackson set forth the best qualities of a federal prosecutor: "A sensitiveness to fair play and sportsmanship is perhaps the best protection against the abuse of power, and the citizen's safety lies in the prosecutor who tempers zeal with human kindness, who seeks truth and not victims, who serves the law and not factional purposes, and who approaches his task with humility." As a Southern District AUSA and supervisor, Todd embodied those virtues and understood how essential they are to the administration of justice.

Accordingly, we support the nomination of Todd Blanche to be the Deputy Attorney General of the United States, and urge his confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan S. Abernethy	Gina Castellano	Ilan Graff	Christopher L. LaVigne
Andrew Adams	Daniel P. Chung	Margaret Graham	Steve Lee
Jeffrey Alberts	Carrie H. Cohen	Andrea Griswold	Sharon Cohen Levin
Robert Allen	Jonathan Cohen	William J. Harrington	Jessica Lonergan
Justin Anderson	Andrew J. DeFilippis	Scott Hartman	Jason Masimore
Santosh Aravind	Edward B. Diskant	Aimee Hector	Jessica Masella
Marcus A. Asner	Maria E. Douvas	Nola B. Heller	James McDonald
Andrew Bauer	Sarah K. Eddy	Adam Hickey	John M. McEnany
Arianna Berg	Michael English	Victor Hou	Deirdre McEvoy-Cappock
Marc P. Berger	Samson A. Enzer	Timothy Howard	Ian McGinley
Jillian Berman	Joseph P. Facciponti	Kris Hrones	Glen McGorty
Brian R. Blais	Adam Fee	Edward Imperatore	Brendan R. McGuire
Douglas B. Bloom	Zachary Feingold	Eugene Ingoglia	Andrew M. McNeela
Marissa Bostick	Daniel P. Filor	Randall Jackson	Nicholas McQuaid
Daniel Braun	Amy Finzi	Boyd Johnson	David I. Miller
Reed Brodsky	Harris Fischman	Joshua Klein	Parvin Moyne
Jeffrey Brown	Carolina A. Fornos	William C. Komaroff	Rahul Mukhi
Thomas Brown	Christopher D. Frey	Glen A. Kopp	Benjamin Naftalis
Eric B. Bruce	Nicole W. Friedlander	Paul M. Krieger	Joshua A. Naftalis
Sean Buckley	Michael Gerber	Mark Lanpher	Jaimie Nawaday
Marshall Camp	Katherine R. Goldstein	Matthew Laroche	Kan M. Nawaday

Max Nicholas
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John O'Donnell
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Jessica Ortiz
Sarah Paul
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Brendan Quigley
Lorin L. Reisner
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Shane T. Stansbury
Daniel L. Stein
William Stellmach
Jonathan R. Streeter
Andrea L. Surratt
Richard C. Tarlowe
Daniel B. Tehrani
Serrin Turner

Niketh Velamoor
Hadassa Waxman
Justin Weddle
Avi Weitzman
Alexander J. Willscher
Alexander J. Wilson
John Zach
Douglas Zolkind