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ATF Association

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January 29, 2013

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

Senator Leahy:

As President of the ATF Association I write in support of the President's recommendation for a prompt Senate hearing and confirmation of Acting Director B. Todd Jones as permanent Director for the Bureau.

As stated by President Obama, and certainly a high priority of our Association members, the Bureau has been without a permanent Director for over six years. Unlike any other Federal law enforcement agency, ATF enforces laws and regulates industries that touch on some of the most sensitive and emotionally charged issues in our nation. ATF is recognized as the primary federal law enforcement agency focusing on reducing violent crime involving firearms and explosives. With these critical responsibilities the vacuum caused by a lack of permanent leadership distorts the clarity of the Bureau's mission and diminishes the accountability of its leaders.

ATF employees exemplify the highest professional standards and their dedication to protect and serve the citizens of this country is without question. They deserve, and above all the American people deserve, to have ATF led by a permanent Director who will ensure that clarity of mission and be accountable to the constituency they serve.

Respectfully,

Steven Pirotte

President ATF Association

About the ATF Association: The ATF Association represents retired and current professional staff of ATF. Its members use their skills and abilities to support the missions of ATF, care for members and families in difficult times and endow a foundation for charitable and educational needs.