



July 30, 2013

Dear Senator:

On behalf of Sandy Hook Promise, I am writing today to urge you to support the confirmation of Todd Jones as the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Keeping our families safe must be a top priority for the United States Senate. This week, you have an opportunity to enhance public safety and improve the effectiveness of federal law enforcement by confirming a new ATF director, bringing long-overdue stability and accountability to this important agency.

Sandy Hook Promise is a national organization based in Newtown, Connecticut. We were founded in the immediate aftermath of the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School by a group of neighbors concerned about healing our community and reducing gun violence in all communities. Working together with families of those killed on December 14 and concerned citizens from around the country, we are dedicated to advocating for change so that other families will not experience the loss suffered by those here in Newtown. We recognize that stronger laws and government action are not the complete answer, but we know that effective enforcement of existing laws is essential to reducing violence.

Working together with other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, ATF plays a critical role in the effort to combat violent crime and terrorism. But for more than six years, the agency has been without a confirmed director. With so much at stake, we cannot afford continued inaction that may hamper the agency's ability to accomplish its mission.

We know that you share our commitment to keeping all American families safe from violence. Effective enforcement of our laws is in the interest of all Americans. Republicans, Democrats and independents all desire what we want – to keep our families safe. Acting Director Jones has proven himself an effective leader of ATF and we urge you to support his confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Makris  
Executive Director