

**LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF BENJAMIN B. TUCKER
TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FOR STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL AFFAIRS. ONDCP**
(as of October 21, 2009)

- **Hubert Williams**, President, Police Foundation
- **Jeremy Travis**, President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, The City University of New York
- **Major Cities Chiefs Association**
- **National Sheriffs' Association**
- **Police Executive Research Forum**



October 1, 2009

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

William C. Milliken
Chairman of the Board

Hubert Williams
President

Dear Senator Leahy:

I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse the candidacy of Mr. Benjamin B. Tucker for the position of Deputy Director for State, Local, and Tribal Affairs, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. I have had extensive experience and contacts with him during his tenure as the Deputy Director for Operations, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services of the U.S. Department of Justice, and have interacted periodically with him since his departure from that post.

Ben Tucker is the consummate professional. He understands human nature and recognizes the value of a smile and a positive disposition, even when faced with tough and difficult decisions. Ben is a people person with great communication skills who has not lost the common touch. He understands administration, management, and the challenges facing police chiefs, as well as the cop walking the beat.

Moreover, his broad range of experience, combined with his educational accomplishments, ensures that this critical position is held by someone who recognizes the complexity of the drug issue and the need for an interdisciplinary approach to address it. Ben has served as a New York City police officer, lawyer, college professor, and as the Executive Director of the New York City Commission on Human Rights. He was part of a select group of new precinct service officers educated by medical and other substance abuse experts to conduct innovative drug prevention and education programs in city schools and colleges. I believe that if given the opportunity, Ben Tucker would do an outstanding job in this position.

Sincerely,

Hubert Williams

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JOHN JAY COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

PRESIDENT

JEREMY TRAVIS

October 5, 2009

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

Dear Chairman Leahy and Senator Sessions:

I am writing this letter to urge the Senate to confirm the nomination of Benjamin B. Tucker for the position of Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Allow me first to establish the basis for this letter of support. I have known Mr. Tucker for about 25 years. We first met when I was Special Counsel to the Police Commissioner of the City of New York, and Mr. Tucker was the Assistant Director of the Civilian Complaint Review Board of the New York City Police Department. In our respective capacities, we worked closely together on an analysis of the effectiveness of the police department's handling of civilian complaints of police misconduct. I was immediately impressed with Mr. Tucker's command of the material, his openness to new ideas, and his ability to think through reform proposals in this highly sensitive area of policing.

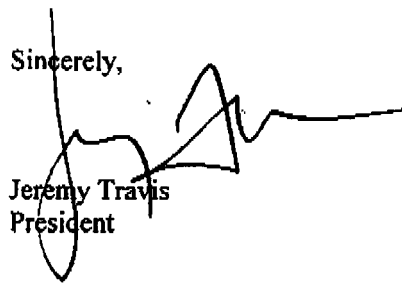
My positive impressions of Mr. Tucker have since been confirmed in a number of professional interactions. Based on our close working relationship in the Police Department, I brought Mr. Tucker to the Mayor's office to serve as my Deputy when I was Director of Law Enforcement Services in the Mayor's Office of Operations. When Mayor Koch revamped the city's Human Rights Commission, following a critical review that I produced for the Mayor, he called upon Mr. Tucker to serve as deputy commissioner of this important agency. In both of these capacities, Mr. Tucker earned a reputation as a no-nonsense leader, someone who gets things done by listening to other people and then moving forward with a reform agenda. He was able to bridge the gap between government officials -- particularly those in enforcement agencies -- and the public that we served. He testified frequently before the City Council and earned high marks as a government official whose word could be trusted.

When I went to Washington to serve as Director of the National Institute of Justice, I was proud to recommend Ben Tucker to Attorney General Reno as she was putting together the leadership team for the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, or the COPS Office. In his role as Deputy Director, Ben gained a national reputation as one of the most thoughtful people on the challenges facing American policing. He is able to combine his experience as a front-line police officer, with his vast government experience in other policy sectors, and his particular sensitivity for young people and communities of color -- and the combination is a rare individual who is equally comfortable with police officers and those who are most skeptical of police officers.

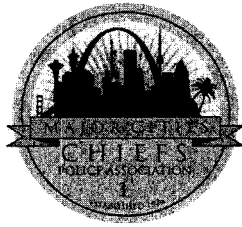
He would bring these strengths to the position of Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and in addition would bring direct experience in the area of drug policy. His position at the Center for Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (CASA) overseeing national drug treatment and drug prevention demonstration projects provided him with exposure to the literature in this field. His tenure as chief safety officer at the New York City Department of Education has underscored the importance of working closely with educators and parents on issues of children at risk. His position as a tenured faculty member at Pace University has exposed him more extensively to the research literature on criminal justice issues.

Ben Tucker will add great strength to the leadership team being assembled at the Office of National Drug Control policy. He understands local government. He is conversant with the challenges facing policing. He can speak to the issues confronting young people and minority communities struggling with the burdens of drug abuse. I strongly urge the Senate to confirm his nomination.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Travis
President



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Atlanta, Georgia
Austin, Texas
Baltimore City, Maryland
Baltimore Co., Maryland
Boston, Massachusetts
Buffalo, New York
Calgary, Alberta
Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina
Chicago, Illinois
Cincinnati, Ohio
Cleveland, Ohio
Columbus, Ohio
Dallas, Texas
Denver, Colorado
Detroit, Michigan
Edmonton, Alberta
El Paso, Texas
Fairfax County, Virginia
Fort Worth, Texas
Honolulu, Hawaii
Houston, Texas
Indianapolis, Indiana
Jacksonville, Florida
Kansas City, Missouri
Las Vegas Metro, Nevada
Long Beach, California
Los Angeles, California
Los Angeles Co., California
Louisville, Kentucky
Memphis, Tennessee
Miami-Dade, Florida
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Montgomery Co., Maryland
Montreal, Quebec
Nashville, Tennessee
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New York City, New York
Newark, New Jersey
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Prince George's Co., Maryland
Salt Lake City, Utah
San Antonio, Texas
San Diego, California
San Francisco, California
San Jose, California
Seattle, Washington
St. Louis, Missouri
Suffolk Co., New York
Toronto, Ontario
Tucson, Arizona
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Vancouver, British Columbia
Virginia Beach, Virginia
Washington, DC
Winnipeg, Manitoba

October 6, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Messrs. Leahy and Sessions:

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs, representing the 56 largest jurisdictions across the Nation, I am writing to support the nomination of Benjamin Tucker to be the Deputy Director for State, Local and Tribal Affairs at the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

Mr. Tucker is an unparalleled expert in criminal justice and we look forward to welcoming him back to Washington. As you know, work at ONDCP is a top priority for law enforcement agencies across our Nation and Mr. Tucker will be a tremendous asset to the drug control policy team. Mr. Tucker has worked in law enforcement and criminal justice for more than 40 years. He started his professional life as a cop in New York City and progressed through the criminal justice field holding various senior positions at several agencies including the COPS office and the NYC Mayor's office. As a professor of criminal justice at Pace University, Mr. Tucker has most recently provided guidance for those who will be our leaders in the future.

American law enforcement has always looked to you for leadership and we again turn to you to move the nomination of Ben Tucker quickly through the confirmation process. ONDCP is too critical an agency not to have all of the top officials in place.

All the best,

William J. Bratton
Chief of Police, Los Angeles, California
President, Major Cities Chiefs' Association



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

October 15, 2009

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chair
The Honorable Jeff Sessions, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), I am writing to express our support for the nomination of Benjamin B. Tucker to be Deputy Director for State, Local and Tribal affairs, Office of Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). We respectfully urge you to confirm his nomination without delay.

The Deputy Director of the Office of State, Local and Tribal Affairs (OSLTA) would be responsible for the activities of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program and supporting State and locals in their efforts to reduce substance abuse at the community level. Thus, the Deputy Director of OSLTA has an important role in coordinating drug control efforts among local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies across the country aimed at reducing illicit drug use, drug trafficking and drug-related crime and violence. Mr. Tucker's vast experience and qualifications make him the ideal candidate to fulfill this role.

NSA is confident in Mr. Tucker's ability to work with the Nation's sheriffs to combat and reduce illegal drugs in the United States. He has illustrated his commitment and knowledge in criminal justice policy and the needs of local law enforcement throughout his career as an academic at Pace University, having served in various capacities for New York City working closely with the local law enforcement community, and at the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

As you know, in order to carry out the Nation's response to illegal drugs, the coordination and collaboration among local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies is critical. As the former Deputy Director for the COPS Office, Mr. Tucker has vital experience in interagency cooperation necessary to assist the ONDCP in establishing the objectives for the Nation's drug control program.

As one of the largest law enforcement associations in the United States, the NSA urges the Senate to swiftly confirm Benjamin B. Tucker as Deputy Director for State, Local and Tribal affairs, Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Respectfully,

Aaron D. Kennard
Executive Director



POLICE EXECUTIVE
RESEARCH FORUM

October 2, 2009

Chuck Wexler
Executive Director

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

Dear Senator Leahy:

On behalf of the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), I am writing to support wholeheartedly the nomination of Benjamin B. Tucker to serve as Deputy Director of State, Local and Tribal Affairs at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

PERF is a Washington, D.C.-based professional association of police chiefs and other leaders of local and state police departments. PERF also serves as a research and technical assistance organization, specializing in helping law enforcement agencies to improve their policies and operations. PERF is governed by a board of directors of leading police chiefs.

Those of us in law enforcement understand that the associate director position at ONDCP is critically important, because it is through the associate director that local and state police agencies can bring their perspectives on a wide range of drug issues to the attention of ONDCP.

I have known Mr. Tucker for more than a decade, and I had the opportunity to work with him in a variety of capacities when he was Deputy Director for Operations at the Justice Department's COPS Office. I have been impressed by his capabilities, his breadth of understanding of criminal justice and law enforcement issues, and his integrity. I know that Mr. Tucker is well liked and respected in the field of law enforcement across the country, and he is deeply committed to serving our nation's criminal justice and law enforcement needs.

On behalf of PERF, I urge you to give expeditious consideration to Mr. Tucker's nomination and to confirm his appointment to this important post at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Respectfully,

Chuck Wexler
Executive Director