

February 20, 2014

Via Fax and Electronically

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 2510

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

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

The undersigned strongly endorse the confirmation of John Cruden to be the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice.

We have known John Cruden both personally and professionally for nearly 50 years. We stood beside John at the United States Military Academy on July 1, 1964, and swore to support and defend, and to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States. In the 50 years since, John has held firm to that oath and has lived his life according to the values of 'Duty, Honor, Country' which West Point teaches. John's personal character and ethics are exceptional, without question.

John Cruden has a unique blend of education, training, professional experience, and leadership style to enable him to be superbly capable of leading this division of the Department of Justice to enforce the law and defend the interests of the United States according to the law.

John Cruden is an accomplished leader of the highest character and committed to the best interests of our nation. We recommend John without reservation. Our nation deserves none better.

Sincerely,

Larry C. Baker
USMA Class of 1968

Robert H. Beahm
Brigadier General, US Army, Retired

Robert J. Balog
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Richard G. Carlson
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Jerald M. Cobb
Colonel, Army of the US, Retired

Douglas Cohn
Captain, US Army, Retired

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Jared E. Florance, M.D.
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Former Principal Deputy Assistant
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Former Assistant Secretary of Defense

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Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

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Colonel, U.S. Army Retired

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VP, Washington Region, Systems &
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George G. Tillery, Jr
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Ralph R. Tuccillo
Colonel, US Army, Retired

Thomas L. Vollrath
Colonel, US Army, Retired

Mike Wells
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Terrence K.H. Wong
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Richard K. Wright
Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired

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