



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

February 26, 2013

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

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

I support the nomination of Karol Mason to be Assistant Attorney General for Justice Programs at the Department of Justice. Ms. Mason is a dedicated public servant committed to bringing people together to address difficult challenges.

As a former North Carolina Supreme Court justice, and a Congressman representing one of the poorest districts in the country, I understand the importance of criminal justice programs in empowering communities. Ms. Mason previously served as a Deputy Associate Attorney General where she oversaw several key offices including the Office of Justice Programs, Office on Violence Against Women, and the Community Oriented Policing Services Office. In this role, she was a leader in the Attorney General's Defending Childhood initiative that provided resources to children who are exposed to violence. Ms. Mason engaged the Departments of Health and Human Services and Education in this effort to release a report on best practices for working with children who may need counseling or other assistance. Ms. Mason also led the Memphis Team for the White House's Strong Cities, Strong Communities initiative. The program was a collaboration of several agencies to help cities address labor preparedness, education, and criminal justice challenges. These efforts were critical for the economic health and safety of communities in greatest need.

In her efforts to support Tribal communities, Ms. Mason worked to simplify the application process for Tribal grants by reducing the number of grant solicitations from twenty to a single solicitation. Ms. Mason's leadership in this and other major initiatives demonstrates her qualifications for the appointment.

Ms. Mason has a distinguished legal career outside of government including making partner at a national law firm with more than 900 attorneys, serving on several boards of directors, publishing articles, and serving as a featured speaker at events.

Based on her prior experience at the Department of Justice, her commitment to public service, and her impressive legal career, I strongly support the appointment of Karol Mason as Assistant Attorney General for Justice Programs at the Department of Justice.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



C.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress