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March 6, 2013

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

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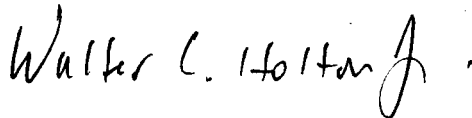
Dear Chairman Leahy:

I am writing in support of confirmation for B. Todd Jones as Director of ATF. I served as U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina from 1994 to 2001 and worked closely with Todd as a colleague. I observed and worked with Todd during his tenure as Vice Chair and Chair of the Attorney General's Advisory Committee and we worked closely on gun violence prevention efforts in Minneapolis and High Point, N.C., that proved very successful.

Todd was and is universally respected by his colleagues for his leadership skills, his commitment to excellence, and his moral compass. He is committed to enforcement of the law with enthusiasm and vigor, but also with complete respect for the constitutional rights of individuals. Todd has a deep appreciation and understanding for the independent roles of the legislative, judiciary and executive branches, and a good understanding of the appropriate interactions between the three branches.

Perhaps as important, Todd possesses good common sense and a sense of humor that commands loyalty and endears him to colleagues and those who work for him. I am not as familiar with Todd's military career, but I do note that his distinguished service in the armed forces serves to highlight the level of commitment that Todd has displayed to his country. I strongly and sincerely endorse his confirmation as Director and I encourage the Judiciary Committee and the Senate to do so.

Sincerely,



Walter C. Holton, Jr.

WCH/kbs