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May 14, 2013

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

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:

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Tony West to the position of Associate Attorney General of the United States. Based on my experience of over 40 years of service as a peace officer, I believe that Mr. West is especially well qualified for this important position and that he has demonstrated an abiding commitment to public safety and excellence in law enforcement throughout his career.

Having served as the Police Commissioner for the cities of New York and Boston, respectively, and the Chief of Police for the City of Los Angeles, I know from personal experience the importance of having a strong partnership with the federal law enforcement community. I believe that Mr. West—based on his experience as a state and federal prosecutor—understands this important role and that he will be a committed advocate for law enforcement and public safety across the country as Associate Attorney General of the United States. Indeed, throughout his career, Mr. West has taken every opportunity to provide leadership on significant public safety challenges.

As a federal prosecutor, Mr. West worked with local police officers and federal agents, prosecuting drug traffickers and violent criminals. He also served as a Special Assistant Attorney General in California, assisting the state Attorney General in setting crime and law enforcement policy across California. In addition, during his tenure in the United States Department of Justice, he has continued his focus on public safety. Mr. West has worked to protect the safety and wellness of our nation's sworn peace officers through the National Officer Safety and Wellness Group. He has pursued companies for knowingly selling defective

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bulletproof vests that put the lives of our men and women in law enforcement at risk. And, as Acting Associate Attorney General, he has overseen the COPS Hiring Program and the distribution of over \$100 million to law enforcement agencies to hire or rehire career officers to increase community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. Finally, as a federal Board Member of the First Responder Network Authority, he is working with state and local law enforcement leaders and communication innovators to establish a single nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network.

In sum, Mr. West has the experience, talent and legal skill to ably serve our country in this critical position, and he has demonstrated that the values of excellence and commitment to public safety are fundamental to his character as a professional. He is a leader and a truly fine public servant, and it is my hope that the Senate will confirm Mr. West promptly to serve as the Associate Attorney General of the United States.

All the best,

William J. Bratton President & CEO