

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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February 17, 2021

The Honorable Richard Durbin Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

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

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

We write to you today to express our support for the nomination of Judge Merrick Garland as the next Attorney General of the United States. The Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA) is the largest nonpartisan, nonprofit professional organization, representing federal law enforcement officers. FLEOA represents more than 30,000 federal law enforcement officers from 65 different agencies. As Attorney General, Judge Garland will lead the Department of Justice and bear the enormous responsibility and, as our nation's top law enforcement officer, be tasked with ensuring that our Constitution, democracy, and the rule of law are protected and preserved throughout the nation.

In an effort to best serve our members, FLEOA conducts careful analysis of candidates set to fill critical roles that affect the wellbeing of our constituents. Accordingly, this support is always given to the best candidate - regardless of any political affiliation. Judge Garland will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience in his role as Attorney General. He is a graduate of Harvard University, served as an attorney for a major law firm and as a federal prosecutor for the Department of Justice playing a leading role in the investigation and prosecution of the Oklahoma City bombers. Judge Garland has served as a United States Circuit Judge in Washington DC since 1997 and has a reputation for working with both sides of the isle.

Within the Department of Justice, federal law enforcement officers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, U.S. Marshals Service, and Drug Enforcement Administration work diligently to ensure our nation and its residents are kept safe from a myriad of crimes and violations of federal law. Their successes are tied directly to the support and funding received from the Department of Justice and the leadership of the Attorney General. In our view, as someone who has worked both within the Department and served on the federal courts, Judge Garland has the background and pragmatic experience necessary to ensure that both DOJ and its law enforcement components will continue to be equipped and ready to carry out their important missions.

FLEOA looks forward to working with Judge Garland as the Attorney General so that together we can continue to keep our nation safe, ensure the rule of law is adhered to, and reinforce the support for the important work federal law enforcement officers perform every day.

If we can be of any additional assistance, feel free to contact us at fleoa@fleoa.org.

Sincerely,

Larry Cosme

National President Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association

CC: Members, Senate Committee on the Judiciary