

February 8, 2021

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Re: Nomination of Lisa O. Monaco as Deputy Attorney General of the United States

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

As former United States Attorneys in multiple Democratic and Republican Administrations over the last six decades, we are pleased to write in strong, bipartisan support of President Biden's nomination of Lisa O. Monaco to serve as Deputy Attorney General of the United States. We are unanimous that she is superbly qualified and possesses the requisite leadership, judgment, and character to be an outstanding Deputy Attorney General.

Ms. Monaco has dedicated much of her 25-year career to public service, including 15 years in a variety of senior roles at the Justice Department in the Administrations of Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama. She started her Justice Department career as Counsel to Attorney General Janet Reno from 1999-2001, and then spent six years as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Columbia, prosecuting a range of cases from violent crime to fraud and public corruption and serving as a lead prosecutor on the Enron Task Force. Between 2006 and 2009, Ms. Monaco was Counsel and then Chief of Staff at the FBI, where she assisted Director Robert S. Mueller, III, with the Bureau's post-9/11 transformation into a national security organization focused on the prevention of terrorism and other foreign threats against our country.

At the start of the Obama Administration, Ms. Monaco served first as Associate Deputy Attorney General overseeing national security matters, and then as the Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General -- the Deputy Attorney General's primary advisor on a range of criminal policy, law enforcement, national security, and civil litigation matters. That role also involved substantial responsibility for the overall management and supervision of the Department, including the 94 United States Attorneys' Offices. In 2011, she was nominated and confirmed as the Assistant Attorney General for the National Security Division, leading the Division's 400 lawyers and professional staff, serving as the Department's liaison to the Intelligence Community, and overseeing all federal terrorism and national security prosecutions nationwide. From 2013-2017, Ms. Monaco served as the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism ("Homeland Security Advisor"), and coordinated the federal government's preparation, crisis management, and response operations for a wide array of homeland security threats ranging from pandemics to natural disasters to terrorist attacks. In

the years since the end of the Obama Administration, Ms. Monaco has practiced law at an international law firm as co-chair of the Data Security and Privacy Group and as a leading expert in the business, legal, and policy issues surrounding data security and privacy.

This wealth of experience uniquely qualifies Ms. Monaco to handle the various demands of the Deputy Attorney General position. Her years of proud service as one of the Department's most respected prosecutors has equipped her to manage the federal government's criminal and civil litigation with wisdom, sound judgment, and an abiding respect for the critical importance of the independent and apolitical exercise of prosecutorial discretion. Her numerous positions with management responsibilities have given her particular insight into all areas and levels of the Department's operations. Ms. Monaco's leadership of the National Security Division and her responsibilities as President Obama's Homeland Security Advisor have given her the background to effectively manage the Department's expanding role in the government's national security operations. The reputation she has earned at every step of her career as a team player and as a natural manager and leader demonstrates that she will instill a tone of collegiality and mutual respect within the Justice Department that will build morale and inspire the workforce. Finally, and most importantly, her years of devotion to the Department and its mission provide absolute confidence that Ms. Monaco will do everything she can to ensure that the Department exercises its vast power and authority with fairness and in the interest of justice.

Ms. Monaco's record of service and accomplishment makes her ideally suited to serve as Deputy Attorney General. We applaud President Biden for nominating someone of such caliber: a dedicated public servant who is universally heralded for her legal acumen, her strong analytical and leadership abilities, her integrity and humility, and her utter dedication to the rule of law and to the independence and excellence of the Justice Department. We give her nomination our unqualified endorsement, and we urge the Judiciary Committee and the United States Senate to promptly confirm Ms. Monaco as the next Deputy Attorney General of the United States.

Sincerely,

Kent Alexander
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John L. Brownlee
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