February 20, 2014

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 2510

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:

The undersigned strongly endorse the confirmation of John Cruden to be the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice.

We have known John Cruden both personally and professionally for nearly 50 years. We stood beside John at the United States Military Academy on July 1, 1964, and swore to support and defend, and to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States. In the 50 years since, John has held firm to that oath and has lived his life according to the values of ‘Duty, Honor, Country’ which West Point teaches. John's personal character and ethics are exceptional, without question.

John Cruden has a unique blend of education, training, professional experience, and leadership style to enable him to be superbly capable of leading this division of the Department of Justice to enforce the law and defend the interests of the United States according to the law.

John Cruden is an accomplished leader of the highest character and committed to the best interests of our nation. We recommend John without reservation. Our nation deserves none better.

Sincerely,

Larry C. Baker
USMA Class of 1968

Robert J. Balog
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Robert H. Beahm
Brigadier General, US Army, Retired

Richard G. Carlson
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired
Jerald M. Cobb  
Colonel, Army of the US, Retired

Douglas Cohn  
Captain, US Army, Retired

William E. Dickerson, M.D.  
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David P. Ford  
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Jared E. Florance, M.D.  
Colonel, Army of the US, Retired  
Retired State Surgeon, Vermont National Guard

William M. Gardepe  
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Jess Gatlin  
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L. Jerry Hansen  
Former Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy, and Environment)

Dave Hatcher  
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Charles F. Hawkins  
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Former Assistant Secretary of Defense

Thomas L. McNaugher  
Senior Visiting Professor, Georgetown University

William T. Marriott  
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Joseph N. Mangino  
President, Mangino Resources

William L. Mulvey  
Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired

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Major General, US Army, Retired

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Richard T. Rhoades  
Colonel, U.S. Army Retired
Henry L. Riser  
VP, Washington Region, Systems & Processes Engineering Corporation

Peter T Sowa  
Colonel, US Army, Retired

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Robert A. Stroud  
US Army, Retired

George G. Tillery, Jr  
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Ralph R. Tuccillo  
Colonel, US Army, Retired

Thomas L. Vollrath  
Colonel, US Army, Retired

Mike Wells  
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Terrence K.H. Wong  
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Retired

Richard K. Wright  
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