March 4, 2013

VIA EMAIL AND FACSIMILE (202) 224-9516

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

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

Re: Nomination of Karol V. Mason as Head of the Justice Department’s Office of Justice Programs

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

I write you in support of the nomination of Karol V. Mason to fill the position as head of the Justice Department’s Office of Justice Programs. I had the great honor of serving in the Justice Department for almost twenty years, the last four of which were as United States Attorney in Atlanta for three years under President William J. Clinton and one year under President George W. Bush.

As a prosecutor for almost two decades, I understand how critically important the Office of Justice Programs can be to funding research and programs that offer new approaches and insights into dealing with the issues confronting the criminal justice system. I am convinced that Karol Mason has the experience and judgment to serve effectively as the head of this office. I have known Karol since she was a law student and I was on staff at the University of Michigan Law School. Karol has always impressed me as brilliant and hardworking. As Deputy Associate Attorney General, Karol oversaw and regularly interacted with the office of the Justice Programs; the Community Relations Services and the Community Oriented Policing Services Office (“COPS”). Karol gained invaluable experience from this service. She formulated and led a team of DOJ representatives across various component offices to address wide-ranging criminal justice issues in New Orleans. Karol also led the Attorney General’s initiative to
provide support to children exposed to violence, known as Defending Childhood. Karol led the effort which resulted in the creation of six demonstration sites, two of which were in Indian County, to address the traumatic effect of violence on the lives and development of children.

I know Karol to be a person of immense energy and intellect. She has the ability to successfully draw people of diverse interests and backgrounds into a common endeavor. Karol is very well-suited by temperament and judgment to serve in this important position. As a longtime prosecutor and as someone who recognizes the immeasurable value of innovative and alternative approaches to law enforcement, I highly recommend Karol for this position.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter in support of Ms. Mason.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Deane, Jr.