March 8, 2013

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

Sent Via Fax: 202-224-9516

Re: Nomination of B. Todd Jones as ATF Director

Dear Chairman Leahy:

I am writing in support of the nomination of B. Todd Jones as director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. I have known Mr. Jones and had professional contact with him for 15 years. I first met Mr. Jones when I served as the chief of staff of the Criminal Division at the Department of Justice (1998-1999). Mr. Jones was the United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota at the time. I have had continuing contact with him in my role as the executive director of the National Association of Former United States Attorneys (NAFUSA) and during my term (2009-2010) as president of NAFUSA. Mr. Jones has continued as a member of NAFUSA and has spoken at our national conferences on at least three occasions.
In my many contacts with Mr. Jones, I have always found him to be fully dedicated to the rule of law and to effective, fair and vigorous law enforcement. His record as the interim director of ATF has been exemplary. During these difficult times of conflicting views on how best to deal with gun issues, ATF needs a strong and able confirmed director, one who will be resolute in enforcing the laws passed by Congress. I am confident Todd Jones is the right person for that role.

NAFUSA is a nonpartisan and bipartisan organization of nearly 300 former United States Attorneys and presidentially appointed Justice Department officials from administrations as far back as President Kennedy. Although I write this letter of support in my individual capacity and not on behalf of the organization, I am confident you could reach out to NAFUSA members from both sides of the aisle and they would speak highly of Mr. Jones.

Sincerely yours,

Richard A. Rossman