

July 3, 2013

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
The United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member  
The United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Bipartisan Endorsement of Jim Comey to be FBI Director from Former United States Attorneys

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are friends, admirers, and former Justice Department colleagues of Jim Comey, and we write in strong bipartisan support of his nomination to be the next Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Jim is an extraordinary public servant. He is a man of tremendous integrity – principled, thoughtful, dignified, and smart. In case after case, as an Assistant United States Attorney in two districts, as the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and as the Deputy Attorney General of the United States, he demonstrated a steadfast adherence to the rule of law and to the principles of federal prosecution. He found facts, and he followed them. He understood the law, and he applied it. He paid no heed to politics. He made decisions without fear or favor.

Jim speaks often and eloquently of the role of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Justice Department in safeguarding the liberty and security of all Americans. It is a balance he knows well, because he spent so many years striving to strike the right balance, under all circumstances and in every case. Indeed, it was his principled leadership that helped the Department of Justice through challenging times. Some of those are well known. Others, however, are not. Often, Jim's leadership revealed itself through a phone call or a short note – a word of encouragement or appreciation – to a hardworking, and underappreciated, agent or prosecutor.

Jim is also a gifted manager. As Deputy Attorney General, he was responsible for the oversight and management of the entire Department of Justice, and all of its component parts, including the FBI, which reported to him. He also supervised the United States Attorney community – it was in that capacity that so many of us worked with him and for him. And that is why we know, with certainty, that Jim is an honorable and dedicated friend, colleague, leader, and manager.

We know Jim well. We have watched him from up close and from far away. We like him, we admire him, we trust him, we respect him, and we can think of no better person to take on this remarkably important job – as Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Respectfully,

A. Brian Allbritton  
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Western District of Arkansas

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Robert Bonner  
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Congresswoman Susan W. Brooks  
Former United States Attorney  
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Former United States Attorney  
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John Brownlee  
Former United States Attorney  
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Former United States Attorney  
Western District of Pennsylvania

Wayne Budd  
Former United States Attorney  
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Former United States Attorney  
Eastern District of New York

Leura G. Canary  
Former United States Attorney  
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Zachary W. Carter  
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Paul K. Charlton  
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Colm Connolly  
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District of Delaware

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