December 12, 2016

Re: Nomination of Senator of Jeff Sessions for Attorney General of the United States

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

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
437 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Diane Feinstein
United States Senator
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Leahy and United States Senator Feinstein:

I served as the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois from April 1985 through November of 1989. During that period of time, I came to know – both personally and professionally – Senator Jeff Sessions who then served as the United States Attorney for Alabama’s Southern District.

From my work with Senator Sessions, both on committees as well as in connection with some significant law enforcement investigations, I came to form an opinion as to the manner in which he handled the important responsibilities as the United States Attorney. Throughout the entire time that I knew him, I never saw anything which suggested that his commitment was other than to the community as a whole and to protect the public while recognizing the individual rights guaranteed to our citizens by the Constitution.

Throughout that period of time, I never saw or heard anything which suggested that he was in any way racially biased or unwilling to consider, accept and appreciate points of views that differed from his own.
I know that my view of Senator Sessions was shared by the many United States Attorneys who I dealt with during that period of time.

I submit this letter in the hopes that it will address certain issues which I have read have been raised about Senator Sessions and will assist you in your hearings concerning his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Anton R. Valukas

ARV/bjz

Cc: John Brownlee