

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

P. O. Box 30158
Los Angeles, Calif. 90030
Telephone: (213) 486-0150
TDD: (877) 275-5273
Ref #: 1.1

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
Mayor

May 15, 2013

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Tony West to the position of Associate Attorney General of the United States. From my standpoint as Chief of Police for the City of Los Angeles, Mr. West is particularly well qualified for this important position because of his longstanding commitment to public safety and excellence in law enforcement.

As a career peace officer, I believe it is an imperative to have a strong partner of the law enforcement community in such a critical position in the Justice Department. The Los Angeles Police Department is responsible for protecting public safety in the nation's second largest city. We regularly call upon our strong relationship with our federal law enforcement partners, including the Justice Department, to fulfill our mission. Based on his experience as a front-line prosecutor, Mr. West is a passionate advocate for law enforcement and is committed to protecting public safety. As a federal prosecutor, he served in the trenches with local police officers and federal agents, prosecuting drug traffickers and violent criminals. Before entering the courtroom, he served as a Special Assistant Attorney General here in California, advising the state's "top cop" on crime policy and law enforcement issues.

Mr. West has continued his focus on public safety and law enforcement issues during his tenure in the Justice Department. He held companies accountable for knowingly manufacturing and selling defective bulletproof vests that put the lives of our men and women in law enforcement at risk, and as Acting Associate Attorney General, he worked to improve the safety and wellness of our nation's sworn peace officers through the National Officer Safety and Wellness Group. In short, his career has been defined in no small measure by a longstanding, deep commitment to public safety.

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
www.LAPDonline.org
www.joinLAPD.com

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy and
The Honorable Charles E. Grassley

Page 2

1.1

Given his experience and proven legal acumen, I believe Mr. West to be very well-qualified to serve as the Associate Attorney General and look forward to working with him on the law enforcement and public safety challenges facing our great City and this country. It is my hope that the Senate will confirm Mr. West promptly to serve as the Associate Attorney General of the United States. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (213) 486-0150.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Beck', is written over the typed name and title.

CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police