



**NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF
BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVES**

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May 17, 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 Minority Member, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) writes to express our support for the nomination of Tony West to the position of Associate Attorney General of the United States. NOBLE has worked closely with Acting Associate Attorney General Tony West, and we know him to be a critical ally to the law enforcement community.

In serving as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, as a Special Assistant Attorney General for the state of California, and as a senior official in the Justice Department, Mr. West has developed strong partnerships at all levels of law enforcement.

As a line federal prosecutor, Mr. West worked closely with local police officers and federal agents to prosecute drug traffickers, child pornographers, and violent criminals. Before entering the courtroom, he served as a Special Assistant in the Justice Department, where he worked on the 1994 Omnibus Crime Bill. As a Special Assistant Attorney General, he advised the California Attorney General's office on statewide crime policy and law enforcement issues, including police training and civil rights.

As Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Division and in his current capacity as Acting Associate Attorney General, Mr. West has continued to demonstrate his commitment to public safety through partnerships with law enforcement. Under his leadership, the Department has emphasized providing technical assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies through programs like the Collaborative Reform Model, a resource designed to evaluate critical responses, in an effort to promote effective policing procedures and enhance community trust.

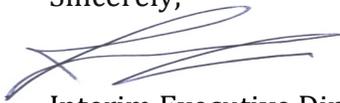
As Acting Associate Attorney General, Mr. West is responsible the administration of grants that are vital to the work of front-line law enforcement. For example, he is overseeing the administration of \$10 million in grants under the Community Policing Development Program, which will fund innovative community policing strategies to meet emerging issues in the field, such as homicide reduction training and a training curriculum for school resource officers.

His work in recognizing the efforts of law enforcement officials, prosecutors and citizens involved in the investigation and subsequent prosecution of missing and exploited children's cases should not go unnoticed. His leadership insures that the necessary resources are available to alert the public and to elicit their support in bringing these lost children home.

We welcome Mr. West's ongoing leadership as a Board Member of the First Responder Network Authority ("FirstNet"), where he continues to build bridges among state and local law enforcement officers to advance the work of our nation's first-responders through the development of FirstNet—a single nationwide, interoperable public safety network.

Throughout Mr. West's career, he has proven to be an effective partner to law enforcement. With this experience, we believe him to be well-qualified to serve as Associate Attorney General and look forward to working with him on a broad range of law enforcement and public safety issues. It is our hope that the Senate will confirm Mr. West promptly to serve as the Associate Attorney General of the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized name.

Interim Executive Director