

September 23, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Competition
Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights
United States Senate
425 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Michael S. Lee
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on
Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer
Rights
361A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman Durbin, Ranking Member Grassley, Chairwoman Klobuchar and Ranking Member Lee:

We write as former Justice Department Assistant Attorneys General for Antitrust in support of the confirmation of Jonathan Kanter to head the Antitrust Division.

The undersigned served under different Administrations, Republican and Democratic. Although we may disagree on some antitrust issues, we share two important convictions. First, the Antitrust Division needs a leader who is smart and experienced, who appreciates the important role antitrust enforcement plays in our economy and who is capable of inspiring the talented men and women of the Division to continue their efforts to promote competition in all sectors of the economy. Second, we agree that Jonathan Kanter has the talent and the leadership skills to do the job well.

Many of us have seen Mr. Kanter in action over the last 20 plus years, from his days as a trial attorney at the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition and subsequently representing a wide variety of clients while in private practice. He knows the substance of antitrust. He appreciates its importance to the American consumer. He is a smart and articulate advocate. He respects his adversaries and inspires his colleagues and co-counsel. In short, we believe Mr. Kanter is right for this important position.

Some of us may not share the policy positions Mr. Kanter has taken in the past and some of us may disagree with decisions he will take if confirmed. But we share the view, based on seeing him in action for almost 25 years, that the nominee possesses the qualities that will make him an effective Assistant Attorney General. We urge the Senate to act favorably and as quickly as possible on the nomination of Jonathan Kanter.

Respectfully,

Donald I. Baker
Assistant Attorney General 1976 - 1977

Sanford Litvack
Assistant Attorney General 1980 - 1981

Charles F. Rule
Assistant Attorney General 1986 - 1989

James F. Rill
Assistant Attorney General 1989 - 1992

Joel I. Klein
Assistant Attorney General 1996 - 2000

Thomas O. Barnett
Assistant Attorney General 2006 - 2008

Christine A. Varney
Assistant Attorney General 2009 - 2011

William J. Baer
Assistant Attorney General 2013 - 2016

Makan Delrahim
Assistant Attorney General 2017 - 2021