

July 11, 2017

Honorable Charles Grassley,
Chairman
United States Senate Committee
on the Judiciary
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Dianne Feinstein,
Ranking Member
United States Senate Committee
on the Judiciary
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Bipartisan Letter From Former Senior Department of Justice Officials
in Support of Nomination of Christopher A. Wray

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We are former senior officials of the United States Department of Justice, who write in strong support of Christopher A. Wray to be confirmed as the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We believe that Chris has the judgment, integrity, independence, experience, and commitment to the rule of law to be an excellent FBI Director. He is a nominee of the highest quality.

His devotion to duty and professionalism are embodied in everything he has done in his career. As an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Atlanta, Chris worked closely with FBI special agents and successfully pursued violent offenders and corrupt public officials and established a reputation for apolitical professionalism that we expect from career prosecutors and agents.

In senior leadership roles at the Department of Justice, including as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General where his portfolio under the leadership of the Deputy Attorney General included the FBI, Chris distinguished himself as a leader with a steady hand in times of turmoil. He played a key role in overseeing DOJ's response to the September 11, 2001 terror attacks and in the investigations and prosecutions of companies and executives arising out of the corporate fraud scandals of the early 2000s.

Chris was then nominated—at the age of 36—and unanimously confirmed by the Senate as the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division. During this critical period in our nation's history, Chris led key criminal and national security functions at DOJ, including the full range of prosecution responsibilities now covered by the Criminal Division *and* the National Security Division. These included leadership of the Counterterrorism, Counterespionage, Computer Crime (including child exploitation), Fraud, Narcotics, and Public Corruption Sections. Working closely with the FBI, other federal and state law enforcement agencies and the U.S. Attorney's Offices across the country, Chris led efforts to safeguard our national security by disrupting terrorist support networks,

Honorable Charles Grassley
Honorable Dianne Feinstein
July 11, 2017
Page 2

investigating and prosecuting spies and cybercriminals, and dismantling international criminal organizations. He led efforts to safeguard our markets by investigating and prosecuting corporate executives and companies who had engaged in fraud. And he did so driven by one goal – to keep our Nation safe from enemies foreign and domestic.

Through these experiences, Chris understands well the Bureau's culture and its commitment and devotion to the safety of all Americans and to the rule of law. Whether it was working side-by-side with agents on the cases he prosecuted, coordinating with FBI leaders on the DOJ response to 9/11, participating in morning national security briefings with senior FBI leadership, or working hand-in-hand to oversee the investigation of some of the most complex criminal cases in our nation's history, Chris worked extensively with and was respected by FBI professionals. Chris also has respect and empathy for crime victims, who often include the most vulnerable members of our communities.

Chris' devotion to duty and professionalism has been further proven by his work on behalf of his clients since he left government service. Chris is one of the finest lawyers in the country and he is called on repeatedly by his clients to help solve some of their most complex problems. This experience and expertise will serve us well when it is returned to serve the American people.

In short, Chris has the qualities needed for the job. We respectfully urge the Committee and the Senate, therefore, to confirm him as the Director of the FBI.

Sincerely,

Alberto Gonzales
Attorney General, 2005-2007

John Ashcroft
Attorney General, 2001-2005

William Barr
Attorney General, 1991-1993

Sally Q. Yates
Acting Attorney General, 2017
Deputy Attorney General, 2015-2017

Peter D. Keisler
Acting Attorney General, 2007
Acting Associate Attorney General,
2002-2003
Assistant Attorney General for the Civil
Division, 2003-2007

James M. Cole
Deputy Attorney General, 2010-2015

Honorable Charles Grassley
Honorable Dianne Feinstein
July 11, 2017
Page 3

David W. Ogden
Deputy Attorney General, 2009-2010

Gary G. Grindler
Acting Deputy Attorney General, 2010

Robert D. McCallum, Jr.
Acting Deputy Attorney General, 2003
Associate Attorney General, 2003-2006
Assistant Attorney General for the Civil
Division, 2001-2003

Theodore B. Olsen
Solicitor General, 2001-2004
Assistant Attorney General of the Office
of Legal Counsel, 1981-1984

Jay B. Stephens
Associate Attorney General, 2001-2002

William W. Mercer
Acting Associate Attorney General,
2006-2007
Principal Associate Deputy Attorney
General

Lanny A. Breuer
Assistant Attorney General for the
Criminal Division, 2009-2013

Michael Chertoff
Assistant Attorney General for the
Criminal Division, 2001-2003

David S. Kris
Assistant Attorney General for the
National Security Division, 2009-2011

Kenneth L. Wainstein
Assistant Attorney General for the
National Security Division, 2006-2008

Mark Filip
Deputy Attorney General, 2008-2009

Craig S. Morford
Acting Deputy Attorney General, 2007-
2008

Paul D. Clement
Solicitor General, 2004-2008

Kevin J. O'Connor
Associate Attorney General, 2008-2009

Frank Keating
Associate Attorney General, 1988-1990

Leslie R. Caldwell
Assistant Attorney General for the
Criminal Division, 2014-2017

Alice S. Fisher
Assistant Attorney General for the
Criminal Division, 2005-2008

John C. Richter
Acting Assistant Attorney General for
the Criminal Division, 2005

J. Patrick Rowan
Assistant Attorney General for the
National Security Division, 2008-2009

Wan J. Kim
Assistant Attorney General for the Civil
Rights Division, 2005-2007

Honorable Charles Grassley
Honorable Dianne Feinstein
July 11, 2017
Page 4

R. Hewitt Pate
Assistant Attorney General for the
Antitrust Division, 2003-2005

Thomas L. Sansonetti
Assistant Attorney General for the
Environment and Natural Resources
Division, 2001-2005

Daniel J. Bryant
Assistant Attorney General for the Office
of Legal Policy, 2003-2005

Viet D. Dinh
Assistant Attorney General for the Office
of Legal Policy, 2001-2003

Michael J. Sullivan
Acting Director, Bureau of Alcohol,
Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, 2006-
2009