January 9, 2019

The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Chairman  
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member  
United States Senate  
Committee on the Judiciary  
Washington D.C.  20510

Re: Nomination of William P. Barr as Attorney General of the United States

Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Feinstein,

We former officials and employees of various administrations and the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office write to express our strong and enthusiastic support for the nomination of William P. Barr to serve once again as Attorney General of the United States.

Bill is that rare combination of intellect and principle who has served our country and the Department of Justice with great distinction and then excelled as a senior executive in the private sector.

President George H.W. Bush recognized Bill’s powerful intellect and legal acumen by nominating him to increasingly important roles in the Department of Justice; initially as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel, later as Deputy Attorney General and ultimately as Attorney General. As a 41 year-old nominee, Bill enjoyed overwhelming bi-partisan support in his three confirmations as well as bi-partisan respect for a job well done.

Bill’s career reveals a character of unwavering commitment to the rule of law without regard to favor or politics. Instructive in this regard are his pivotal roles in such matters as the successful prosecutions of those responsible for the Savings and Loans Crisis and his oversight of the successful clean-up of that industry; working with then-Assistant Attorney General Robert Mueller III on the investigation of the Pan Am 103 Lockerbie bombing, the prosecution of Manuel Noriega and the prosecution of the police officers in the Rodney King matter; enforcing the Americans with Disabilities Act; and Bill’s personal development of the theories and outreach to then-Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau that allowed the Department to resolve the longstanding multi-jurisdictional investigation of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI).

In addition, Bill did not hesitate when required by the law to appoint or seek the appointment of Special/Independent Counsels for high-profile matters such as the House Bank investigation, the
Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL/"Iraqgate") matter, the Clinton passport file search ("Passport-gate") and the Inslaw investigation.

Bill was and remains highly respected and admired by the career prosecutors, investigators and staff of the Department he oversaw and its various components, including the FBI and DEA. Bill also developed great partnerships with state and local law enforcement around the country through the Department’s Executive Working Group, creating joint task forces to combat white collar crime, drug trafficking and violent crime across the nation.

We can attest that Bill’s style was to consult widely, hear from those closest to a matter, and consider others' views with an open mind. Bill was always considerate and respectful of those with whom he worked throughout the Justice Department, no matter how high- or low-ranking.

It is his patriotism and respect for the institution that bring Bill Barr back before you. We urge you in the strongest manner possible to confirm him to the job he is uniquely qualified to perform again.

Respectfully,¹

Michael B. Mukasey
U.S. Attorney General (2007-09)

Alberto R. Gonzales
U.S. Attorney General (2005-07)
Counsel to the President (2001-05)

John Ashcroft
U.S. Attorney General (2001-05)
U.S. Senator MO (1995-01)
Governor of Missouri (1991-92)
Attorney General MO (1977-85)

George J. Terwilliger III
U.S. Attorney, Dist. VT (1986-91)
AUSA, Dist. DC and Dist. VT (1978-86)

James M. Cole
Deputy Attorney General (2011-15)
DOJ (1979-92)

Michael Chertoff
Secretary, Department of Homeland Security (2005-09)
Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (2003-05)
Assistant Attorney General Criminal Division (2001-03)
U.S. Attorney, D. NJ (1990-94)

William H. Webster
Director, CIA (1987-91)
Director, FBI (1978-87)
U.S. Court of Appeals Judge, 8th Circuit (1973-78)
U.S. Attorney, E.D. MO (1960-61)

Louis J. Freeh
Director, FBI (1993-2001)
U.S. District Judge, SDNY (1991-93)

¹ Permission to include each signator’s name received via e-mail.
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Deputy U.S. Attorney General (2001-03)  
U.S. Attorney, N.D. GA (1982-86)

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U.S. Solicitor General (1989-93)  
U.S. Court of Appeals Judge, D.C. Cir. (1983-89)

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Deputy U.S. Attorney General (1981-84)

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Associate U.S. Attorney General (1992-93)  

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Associate Attorney General (2001-02)  
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Deputy Counsel to the President (1986-88)  
Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General (1985-86)

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General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development (1989-92)  
Associate U.S. Attorney General (1988-89)  
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (85-87)  
U.S. Attorney, N.D. OK (1981-83)

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Deputy Counsel to the President (2001-02)

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Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (2001-05)  
Administrator, DEA (1990-93)  
U.S. District Judge, C.D. Cal. (1988-90)  
U.S. Attorney, C.D. Cal. (1984-88)

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General Counsel, DHS (2003-05)  
Principal Deputy Associate Attorney General (1988-89)  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General (86-88)  
U.S. Attorney, M.D. GA (1981-86) and N.D. GA (1990-93)

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U.S. Attorney DC (2004-06)  
Assistant Attorney General for National Security (2006-08)  
Homeland Security Advisor to President George W. Bush (2008-09)

Tom Corbett  
Governor of Pennsylvania (2011-15)  
U.S. Attorney, W.D. PA (1989-93)

Richard Cullen  
Attorney General of Virginia (1997-98)  

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Assistant Secretary for Enforcement  
US Treasury Department (1990-93)  
U.S. Attorney S.D. CA (1982-88)  
AUSA S.D. CA (1972-82)

Floyd Clarke  
Acting Director, FBI (1993)  
Deputy Director, FBI (1988-94)

Larry Potts  
Deputy Director, FBI (1994-95)
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Acting Attorney General (2007)  
Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division (2003-07)  
Principal Deputy Associate Attorney General and Acting Associate Attorney General (2002-03)

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Counselor to the Attorney General (91-93)  
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U.S. Attorney, S.D. IN (1988-93)

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Assistant District Attorney, New York County (1972-2005)

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Assistant to the Attorney General (1991-92)  
Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General (1990-91)  
U.S. Attorney, W.D. MI (1981-94)  
Berrien County, MI Prosecutor (1974-81)  
President, Prosecuting Attorneys Assoc MI (1980-81)

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Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General (1991-92)  
Vice Chair Attorney General’s Advisory Committee (1992)

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Chief, Fraud Section, Criminal Division (1990-91)

Daniel Levin  
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Counselor to Attorney General Janet Reno (1995)  
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Acting Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division (1992-93)
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Ron Ederer
U.S. Attorney W.D. TX (1989-93)
U.S. Magistrate Court Judge (1976-82)

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Justice, Supreme Court of North Carolina (2000-16)
U.S. Attorney, M.D. NC (1986-93)

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Chief Judge/Circuit Judge, 19th Judicial Circuit of Illinois (2004-14)
Lake County, Illinois States Attorney (1980-90)
President, National District Attorneys Association (1989-90)

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