

February 26, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter in Support of Vanita Gupta, nominee for United States Associate Attorney General

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

We are writing this letter in support of Vanita Gupta, the President's nominee to become the Associate Attorney General of the United States Department of Justice.

We are current and former police chiefs and sheriffs from some of the largest and diverse cities all over the country: Nashville, Raleigh, New Orleans, Tucson, Philadelphia, New York, Washington DC, Seattle, Baltimore, Los Angeles, Houston, Atlanta, Boston, Dubuque County (IA), Milwaukee, Dallas, East Palo Alto, Columbus, Camden, Dekalb County, Ann Arbor, and Hennepin County. Collectively, we have served over 1,000 years alongside the men and women in blue, with the sole mission of protecting and serving the communities that we live in and love. Throughout those years, we have tried to live, work, and lead honorably, upholding the profession while also seeking to protect the vulnerable and provide aid to those in harm's way.

We know Ms. Gupta well. She herself is no stranger to police issues, having cut her teeth working on a police misconduct case as a young lawyer in Texas, and later leading the Civil Rights Division at the U.S. Department of Justice, where she undertook investigations of Ferguson, Cleveland, Baltimore, and Chicago police departments to ensure there was constitutional policing in those departments. Ms. Gupta has demonstrated a seriousness and willingness to understand the intense

challenges, and even dangers, facing police officers with the intent of improving policing at large without degrading the overwhelming number of brave and honorable police officers. In this way, Ms. Gupta has always shown herself to be a strategic problem solver, who is animated by a desire to build greater trust in our communities and make things better. It is this solutions-oriented approach that we believe will serve Ms. Gupta extraordinarily well as the Associate Attorney General.

Indeed, several important police-related Justice Department components reside in the portfolio of the Associate Attorney General. In addition to the Civil Rights Division, Ms. Gupta will oversee several components within the U.S. Department of Justice that directly assist local law enforcement organizations to effectively work with crime victims and community leaders. These important components include: the Office of Justice Programs section, the Office of Violence Against Women, the Community Relations Service, and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) office.

We believe local law enforcement always does well when there is a healthy partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice. And we are confident that under Ms. Gupta's leadership, the Justice Department will be a valuable partner to law enforcement organizations all throughout the country.

This is particularly important today, while we are in a moment in history where community members are demanding greater accountability and greater trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve. Ms. Gupta is the right leader at this time to become the Associate Attorney General.

We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to quickly process Ms. Gupta's nomination, and we similarly urge the Senate to quickly confirm her.

Thank you for your consideration.

Truly Yours,

Charles Ramsey (Ret.)  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Philadelphia Police Department  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), D.C. Metropolitan Police Department

Past President, Major Cities Chiefs Association  
Past President, Police Executive Research Forum  
Co-Chair, President Obama Task Force on 21st Century Policing

Bill Bratton (Ret.)  
Commissioner (Fmr.), New York Police Department  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Los Angeles Police Department  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Boston Police Department  
Past President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Kathleen O'Toole (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Seattle Police Department  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Boston Police Department  
Massachusetts Secretary of Public Safety (Fmr.)

Ronald L. Davis (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), East Palo Alto Police Department  
Former Director, U.S. Department of Justice, COPS Office

Roberto "Taz" Villaseñor (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Tucson Police Department

J. Scott Thomson (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Camden County Police Department  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Camden Police Department  
Past President, Police Executive Research Forum

Chris Magnus  
Chief of Police, Tucson Police Department, 2015-present  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Richmond Police Department (CA)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Fargo Police Department (ND)

Kenneth J. Runde (Ret.)  
Sheriff (Fmr.), Dubuque County (IA)  
U.S. Marshal (Ret.), Northern District of Iowa

Jerry L. Clayton

Sheriff, Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department (Ann Arbor, MI), 2009-present

Cedric L. Alexander (Ret.)

Chief of Police (Fmr.), Dekalb County Police Department

Rich Stanek (Ret.)

Sheriff (Fmr.), Hennepin County Sheriff's Office (MN)

Former President, Major County Sheriffs' Association

Sean Smoot

Director & Chief Counsel, PBPA of Illinois, Area 4 VP, NAPO, 1995-present

Police Commissioner (Fmr.), Leland Grove Police Department (IL)

Ronal Serpas, PhD

Police Superintendent (Fmr.), New Orleans Police Department (LA), 2010-2014

Chief of Police (Fmr.), Nashville Police Department (TN), 2004-2010

Chief (Fmr.), Washington State Patrol, 2001-2004

Kimberley K. Jacobs (Ret.)

Chief of Police (Fmr.), Columbus Division of Police (OH), 2012-2019

Jerry Dyer

Chief of Police (Fmr.), Fresno Police Department (CA)

Mayor, City of Fresno

Robert White (Ret.)

Chief of Police (Fmr.), Denver Police Department

Chief of Police (Fmr.), Louisville Police Department (KY)

Chief of Police (Fmr.), Greensboro Police Department (NC)

Terry G. Hillard (Ret.)

Superintendent (Fmr.), Chicago Police Department

Edward F. Davis III (Ret.)  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Boston Police Department  
Superintendent (Fmr.), Lowell Police Department (MA)

Kim C. Dine (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), U.S. Capitol Police  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Frederick Police Department (MD)

Richard "Rick" Myers (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Newport News Police Department (VA)  
Chief of Police (Interim)(Fmr.), Sanford Police Department (FL)  
Chief of Police (Interim)(Fmr.), Manitou Springs Police Department (CO)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Colorado Springs Police Department  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Appleton Police Department (WI)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Village of Lisle (IL)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Plymouth Police Department (MI)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Atlas Township Police Department (MI)  
Former Executive Director, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Darrel Stephens (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Mecklenburg Police Department (NC)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), St. Petersburg Police Department (FL)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Newport News Police Department (VA)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Largo Police Department (FL)  
Former Executive Director, Major Cities Chiefs Association  
Former Executive Director, Police Executive Research Forum

Charlie T. Deane (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Manassas Police Department (VA)

Terrance W. Gainer (Ret.)  
Sergeant at Arms (Fmr.), U.S. Senate  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), U.S. Capitol Police  
Director (Fmr.), Illinois State Police

Carmen Best (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Seattle Police Department

Thomas Streicher (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Cincinnati Police Department (OH)  
Past Executive Board Member, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Gil Kerlikowske (Ret.)  
Chief of Police, Seattle Police Department  
Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Director, White House Office of National Drug Control  
Past President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Charles L. Beck (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Los Angeles Police Department  
Interim Superintendent (Fmr.), Chicago Police Department

George N. Turner (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Atlanta Police Department  
Public Safety Commissioner (Fmr.), City of Atlanta

Michael S. Harrison  
Commissioner, Baltimore Police Department  
Superintendent (Fmr.), New Orleans Police Department  
President of the Police Executive Research Forum

U. Reneé Hall  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Dallas Police Department

Earnell R. Lucas  
Sheriff, Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

Gordon Ramsay  
Chief of Police, Wichita Police Department (KS)

Alfred M Jacocks, Jr., (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Virginia Beach Police Department

Sylvia Moir (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Tempe Police Department  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), El Cerrito Police Department (CA)

Luther Reynolds  
Chief of Police, Charleston Police Department (SC)

James Bueermann (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Redlands Police Department (CA)  
Past President, National Police Foundation

J. Thomas Manger (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Montgomery County Police Department (MD)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Fairfax County Police Department (VA)  
Past President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Edward A. Flynn (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Milwaukee Police Department  
Secretary (Fmr.), Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Springfield Police Department (MA)

Cassandra Deck-Brown  
Chief of Police, Raleigh Police Department (NC)

Rodney D. Monroe (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department (NC)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Richmond Police Department (VA)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Macon Police Department

William G. Gross (Ret.)  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Commissioner of the Boston Police Department

Paul Evans (Ret.)  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Boston Police Department

William Evans (Ret.)  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Boston Police Department

Rocco. J. Diina (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Buffalo Police Department (NY)

William Lansdowne (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), San Diego Police Department  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), San Jose Police Department  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Richmond Police Department (CA)

Paul A. Pastor (Ret.)  
Sheriff (Fmr.), Pierce County Sheriff's Department (WA)

Theron L. Bowman, Ph.D. (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Arlington Police Department (TX)

Gerald Smith  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Richmond Police Department (VA)

Daniel J. Oates (Ret.)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Miami Beach Police Department (FL)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Aurora Police Department (CO)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Ann Arbor Police Department (MI)

Medaria Arradondo  
Chief of Police, Minneapolis Police Department (MN)

Art Acevedo  
Chief of Police, Houston Police Department (TX)  
Chief of Police (Fmr.), Austin Police Department (TX)



Sue Rahr (Ret.)  
Sheriff (Fmr.), King County Sheriff's Office (WA)

Richard Ross, Jr. (Ret.)  
Commissioner (Fmr.), Philadelphia Police Department (PA)