

March 2, 2017

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Diane Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Rod J. Rosenstein to Serve as Deputy Attorney General

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I write this letter of recommendation in support of Rod J. Rosenstein, who has been nominated for the position of Deputy Attorney General of the United States. I have known Mr. Rosenstein for many years -- we first interacted in the early 1990s when he was a trial attorney in the Public Corruption Section, and many years later he ably served as U.S. Attorney in Maryland when I had the honor of serving as Deputy Attorney General. Through professional interactions over the years, I have come to know him well. Mr. Rosenstein is a smart, hard-working public servant who has deep experience that will enable him to perform well as Deputy Attorney General. He has proven, through many years of service to the Department of Justice and to the District of Maryland, that he is professional, thoughtful, and fair. I recommend him highly and without reservation.

I would also respectfully urge the Committee to pass upon his nomination with all responsible speed. The position of Deputy Attorney General has sometimes been likened to being the "Chief Operating Officer" of the Department. While there are many dedicated public servants within the Department of Justice that help keep it operating across the Nation and world, it is fair to say that the Deputy Attorney General is one of the principal people in that chain. Many operational law enforcement decisions, ranging from traditional DOJ priorities such as organized crime-prosecutions and violent crime prosecutions, as well as national security functions that have grown substantially since 2001, all touch the Deputy's desk. While I fully appreciate that the Committee will and should vet Mr. Rosenstein thoroughly, I hope the Committee is able to conclude that his record of even-handed, professional service merits expeditious confirmation as Deputy Attorney General.

I respectfully urge the Committee to report favorably upon Mr. Rosenstein's nomination.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Filip
Deputy Attorney General, 2008-09
U.S. District Judge, 2004-2008