



**Victims of Crime and Leniency
VOCAL Angel House
The Quenette Shehane Center**

P.O. Box 4449
Montgomery, Alabama 36103

State Office

1-800-239-3219
(334) 262-7197

December 5, 2016

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
United States Senate
135 Hart Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member
United States Senate
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

RE: Letter of Support for Jefferson Sessions, III
For Confirmation as 84th Attorney General of the United States

Dear Senators Grassley and Leahy:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Victims of Crime and Leniency of Alabama (VOCAL), I write to express our unanimous endorsement of Attorney General Nominee Jefferson Sessions, III. We strongly urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to immediately and fairly confirm the nomination of Jefferson Sessions by President Elect Donald Trump to serve as our next Attorney General. We urge the Senate to confirm Jefferson Sessions, III, immediately.

Founded in 1982 by Miriam Shehane, mother of Quenette Shehane. Quenette was brutally shot and murdered while going to buy salad dressing for a party on the campus of Birmingham Southern. As a result of Quenette's murder, VOCAL was organized to balance the scales of justice by giving crime victims rights rather than eroding the rights of an offender. VOCAL's originally focused on legislation to rectify the unequal scales of justice that our founder saw and lived from 1976 to 1982. During his time as U.S. Attorney, Alabama's Attorney General, and as a United States Senator, Jefferson Sessions, III, continued the fight to ensure victims within our state and our country found fair and equal justice.

Senator Sessions has dedicated his life to public service and continues to have an exemplary career. He received his J.D. degree from the University of Alabama in 1973

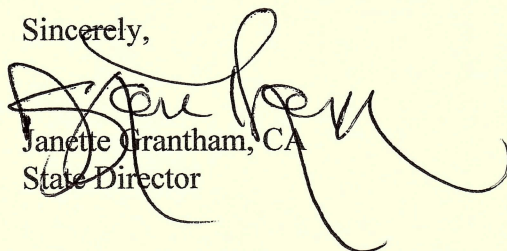
and he received his B.A. degree from Huntingdon College in 1969. Senator Sessions served in the United States Army Reserve from 1973 to 1986 attaining the rank of Captain. Sen. Sessions served with distinction during his first employment with the Department of Justice, as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. Two years later in 1981, President Ronald Reagan nominated Sen. Sessions to serve as the United States Attorney for Alabama's Southern District. Sen. Sessions served with distinction for twelve (12) years as United States Attorney before being elected Alabama Attorney General in 1995, serving as the state's chief legal officer and top law enforcement officer until 1997, when he entered the United States Senate.

Throughout his career, Senator Sessions has led the fight to ensure victims found fair and equal justice while protecting all the citizens of our great state and nation. He co-sponsored legislation to reauthorize the Victims of Child Abuse Act, the Protecting Children from Internet Pornographers Act, and legislation to allow law enforcement to track down violent sexual predators and protect the vulnerable members of our nation. He has supported VOCA and VAWA funding to ensure violent domestic offenders are prosecuted to the fullest extent under our laws. In a fight dear to the hearts of our Board, Sen. Sessions has warned against the "unprecedented commutations" of violent offenders. These are just an indication of where Sen. Sessions' heart lies – justice for those who are victims of crime. Additionally, Sen. Sessions has a rock solid reputation of being an outstanding prosecutor, with impeccable character and integrity. He will serve this nation as the chief law enforcement officer whose decisions are driven by the U. S. Constitution and laws as passed by Congress.

Based on the foregoing, the Board of Directors of VOCAL, without any reservation, strongly support Sen. Jeff Sessions as our next United States Attorney General. The United States is at a pivotal moment in terms of the criminal justice system. We respectfully submit that the Department of Justice and our criminal justice system has never needed a more professional, intellectual and personally qualified individual to take the helm. The United States of America needs Sen. Sessions as Attorney General. Therefore, we urge his confirmation as soon as possible so that he can assume command of the Department of Justice on the first day of the Trump Administration.

The Board welcomes the opportunity to answer any questions that you may have and we thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Janette Grantham, CA
State Director