



February 3, 2026

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley, Leader Thune, and Members of the Committee,

As the unified voice of the suppressor community, we write today to express our strong support for the confirmation of Robert “Bob” Cekada to serve as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). We urge the Committee to advance this exceptionally qualified nominee and the full Senate to confirm him without delay.

Mr. Cekada’s distinguished career at the ATF demonstrates the integrity, experience, and steady leadership the agency urgently needs at this moment. Throughout his service, most recently as ATF’s Deputy Director, he has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to accountability, transparency, and collaboration with law-abiding firearm owners and industry stakeholders. His open-door philosophy has fostered productive dialogue with Second Amendment and firearms experts, ensuring that policy decisions are informed by both public safety considerations and fidelity to the Constitution.

Notably, Mr. Cekada led the agency’s efforts in implementing key provisions of the One Big Beautiful Bill, which eliminated the archaic National Firearms Act transfer tax. This historic achievement reduced unnecessary burdens on law-abiding firearm owners and manufacturers and was the most significant step forward for the Second Amendment in a generation. He also led the effort to classify NFA examiners as essential employees during the government shutdown, preventing delays that would have otherwise further strained both lawful owners and the broader firearms community. These actions reflect a practical, solutions-oriented understanding of the agency’s responsibilities and a commitment to efficient, practical administration.

After years of uncertainty and bureaucratic drift, the ATF requires a confirmed director capable of restoring stability and clarity to the agency's mission. Mr. Cekada is uniquely positioned to provide that leadership. His record demonstrates that he can strike a balance between enforcement and cooperation.

Deputy Director Cekada's appointment to lead ATF presents an important opportunity to strengthen trust between the agency and the millions of taxpayers it serves. For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to support his nomination and vote to confirm him as ATF Director.

Respectfully,

Knox Williams
President & Executive Director
American Suppressor Association

CC: Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary