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May 12, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin, Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Appointment of Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

On behalf of the Office of District Attorney Santa Barbara County, I write to express my support for the confirmation of Steven M. Dettelbach to be the next Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

As a highly respected former-U.S. Attorney who has also successfully led a major law enforcement office within the Department of Justice, Mr. Dettelbach is supremely qualified to lead the nation's frontline gun violence prevention agency. As a group of prosecutors advancing prosecutorial and policy solutions to end gun violence in America, we appreciate Mr. Dettelbach's career-defining fights against violent crime and domestic violent extremism.

As members of local law enforcement, prosecutors have a unique perspective on the assistance the federal government can provide to help protect our communities. At a time when gun violence and violent crimes are rising, ATF desperately needs a strong leader to ensure implementation and enforcement of our existing federal gun laws and to provide direction to the thousands of dedicated law enforcement officers within ATF. The Senate's confirmation of Mr. Dettelbach as ATF Director is crucial for the agency to continue its efforts enforce gun laws and provide the leadership to shut down gun trafficking and rogue gun dealers.

Mr. Dettelbach has demonstrated an unflagging devotion to supporting and defending the U.S. Constitution, supporting victims and survivors and ensuring equal protection and justice for all. Mr. Dettelbach is the strong leader the ATF needs.

Sincerely,


JOYCE E DUDLEY
District Attorney

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