

November 22, 2022

Senator John Cornyn
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

On behalf of the **Texas Association Against Sexual Assault** and the sexual assault programs and survivors we represent, I am writing to urge you to quickly confirm the nomination of Rosemarie Hidalgo as Director of the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

OVW has a pivotal role in ensuring the nation's response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through essential grant programs that support local communities to address and prevent gender-based violence. OVW funding allows TAASA to do the important work of advocating for survivors at the Texas Legislature, as well as provide training and technical assistance to the sexual assault programs that serve as a lifeline of support to survivors and their families.

Additionally, OVW provides essential leadership across the federal government and beyond to prioritize addressing and ending these horrific crimes. The field needs a strong, confirmed leader at the helm of OVW to fulfill these goals.

Ms. Hidalgo is eminently qualified to lead OVW. She is a nationally recognized leader with over 25 years of experience in legislative policy development and implementation, advocacy, grant and program management, and training. Ms. Hidalgo strives to work in a bipartisan manner and is experienced in developing broad-based coalitions, nationally and globally, across sectors to advance policy advocacy and develop innovative strategies and programming. She is currently the Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence and a Special Assistant to the President. Previous positions include Senior Director of Policy at Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families and Communities (now called Esperanza United) and Deputy Director for Policy at the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women.

We respectfully urge you to move forward to confirm Ms. Hidalgo's appointment as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Boyce
General Counsel/Director of Policy and Legal
Texas Association Against Sexual Assault