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March 7, 2007

Honorable Alberto Gonzales
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Gonzales:

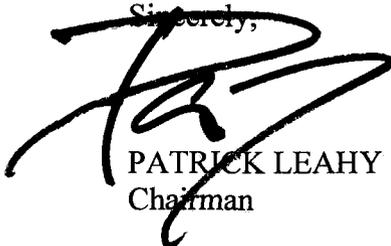
Yesterday, as you know, committees in both the Senate and the House of Representatives held hearings to address the abrupt dismissal of more than a half dozen Senate-confirmed United States Attorneys.

During the course of those hearings, witnesses identified several Department of Justice officials who were involved in the decision to dismiss these U.S. Attorneys or in the execution of that decision.

As part of the Committee's ongoing investigation into this matter, we should have the benefit of hearing directly from these officials. To that end, I would like to work out a process for the Department promptly to make these witnesses available for interviews, depositions, or hearing testimony, on a voluntary basis.

I fully expect that we will be able to come to a convenient arrangement. To avoid any future delay, however, I am listing these Department officials on tomorrow's Executive Business Meeting agenda, so that we will be in a position to authorize subpoenas next week if necessary.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY
Chairman

cc: Hon. Arlen Specter