



Polk County Attorney

JOHN F. SARCONI
County Attorney

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ADDRESS REPLY TO:
206 Sixth Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309-4025
(515) 286-3727
Fax (515) 286-3428

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
United States Senator
433 Russell Senate State Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy,

My purpose in writing to you is to express my support for Eric Holder who has been nominated by President-elect Barack Obama to be the next Attorney General of the United States. Mr. Holder is an excellent lawyer who understands the importance of the position of Attorney General and how the actions of the Department of Justice affect the administration of justice in this country. I am confident that he is the right person to lead the Justice Department and restore the respect and dignity of the department which has been tarnished in recent years.

Mr. Holder has served our country with great distinction throughout his legal career. In 1976, he joined the Department of Justice and was assigned to the Public Integrity Section where he investigated and prosecuted public corruption cases. In 1988 President Reagan appointed him to serve as Superior Court Judge for the District of Columbia and in 1993, Mr. Holder was appointed by President Clinton to serve as the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. In 1997, he was appointed by President Clinton to the position of Deputy Attorney General where he was responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Department of Justice. His background in these positions makes him extremely well-qualified to be the chief law enforcement officer of our country.

As a local prosecutor and member of the National District Attorneys Board of Directors, I am particularly pleased by the fact that Mr. Holder has been in the trenches prosecuting street crime and at the same time managing an office. He understands what the nation's prosecutors deal with every day and why it is essential that a strong working relationship must exist between federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecution authorities to keep our communities safe. He also understands that continuing training of our prosecutors is the key to improving our justice system.

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I know that if Mr. Holder's nomination as Attorney General of the United States is confirmed, he will serve our country in a manner that will bring great respect and honor to the Department of Justice. He will make you proud of the trust you place in him.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,


JOHN P. SARCONE
Polk County Attorney

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