

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman Durbin, and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am writing concerning the nomination of David Chipman to the position of Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Prior to my current role as General Counsel for over 30 U.S. companies, I had the honor of serving as a Special Agent for both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and for ATF. In addition, I served a one-year detail with the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice investigating new evidence that surfaced in regards to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

During my time with ATF and the FBI, I worked closely with several very talented Directors and agents. It was during my time on the Field Management Staff at ATF Headquarters that I had the opportunity to work on a daily basis with David Chipman.

David is, without question, one of the most professional, intelligent and driven individuals that I have ever known. The knowledge and experience he has accumulated during his career have given him clear insight and understanding of the complex and often difficult issues pertaining to firearms in this country.

It is my distinct pleasure to recommend David to you as the next Director of ATF without any reservations whatsoever. Both his professional and his personal work ethic are beyond reproach, to the point of when I think of the word "integrity", I think of David.

ATF has many dedicated, professional employees who do their best to serve and protect our citizens every day. The American public, the agency, and its employees all deserve and truly need a strong and talented leader if we are to succeed in our fight against violent crime. David Chipman is just such a leader, and I urge you to confirm him as the next Director of ATF at your earliest opportunity.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brad Farnsworth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "B".

Brad Farnsworth
General Counsel
The Bretz Companies
2955 Stockyard Road
Missoula, MT 59808