

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Office of the Attorney General**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
**KARL A. RACINE**



April 8, 2021

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley:

I write to urge the confirmation of Todd S. Kim as Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) of the U.S. Department of Justice. Mr. Kim has deep subject matter expertise on the full range of issues the Division handles, thanks to his service as a career attorney in ENRD's Appellate Section for more than seven years.

In addition to his substantive knowledge of ENRD's work, Mr. Kim is an exceptional leader. Mr. Kim served as the District's first Solicitor General for 11 years under five attorneys general, including me. In this role, he not only managed the lawyers and non-attorney professionals who handled the District's appellate work, he also advised and guided the work of our trial Divisions. Many Office of the Attorney General (OAG) lawyers looked to Mr. Kim for mentorship. In recognition of his leadership, OAG awarded Mr. Kim the Outstanding Head of Division award three times.

Mr. Kim also has a profound understanding of the role of government lawyers because he served as one both at ENRD and OAG. At OAG, for example, Mr. Kim fiercely represented the District's interests before the D.C. Court of Appeals, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He handled these cases apolitically and with the same rigorous commitment to following the law, regardless of the political valence. His cases ranged from defending the District's restrictions on firearms and the District's legalization of marriage equality to representing Metropolitan Police Department officers before the Supreme Court. In all of these

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cases, he zealously advocated for the policies enacted by the Council and in support of his clients' best interests. And at ENRD, Mr. Kim served capably as an attorney under both Republican and Democratic administrations and was widely respected by both. I have the utmost confidence that Mr. Kim's fealty is to the law.

In recognition for his tremendous work at OAG, the Council for the District of Columbia honored Mr. Kim with a ceremonial resolution that specifically acknowledged his "first-rate legal mind" and his "integrity and professionalism." These same qualities, along with true leadership skills and a profound commitment to public service and the law, make Mr. Kim an inspired choice to lead ENRD. I recommend Mr. Kim and urge the Committee to confirm him to this important position.

Sincerely,

*Karl A. Racine*

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Attorney General for the District of Columbia