

May 23, 2022

Chairman Richard Durbin
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Charles Grassley
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

We are writing to you in support of the nomination of Steve Dettelbach as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). A cornerstone of any comprehensive approach to gun safety starts with ATF — the agency tasked with regulating the firearms industry. ATF plays a critical role in ensuring the safety of residents throughout cities across America by stopping illegal guns from entering our communities, investigating the trafficking of illegal guns, and regulating the gun industry to root out bad actors. To truly fulfill its mission ATF needs a strong leader, but it's been nearly a decade since we've had a Senate-confirmed director at ATF. There is an urgent need for leadership that can bring the agency into the 21st Century. Steve Dettelbach is the right person to lead the agency and should be confirmed immediately.

Steve Dettelbach has more than two decades of experience as a prosecutor, including serving as US Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio and in the Department of Justice. During his career as a prosecutor, Steve worked with federal, state, and local law enforcement, and county prosecutors, to put away violent criminals, including murderers, child predators, and more than 40 human traffickers. He has worked with law enforcement on cases ranging from terrorism to hate crimes to gun crimes. Dettelbach brings a proven record of successfully working to fight violent crime, domestic violent extremism and religious violence – including through partnerships with the ATF to prosecute complex cases and take down violent criminal gangs.

Dettelbach knows that the ATF doesn't make the laws, it enforces them — and his long history in law enforcement and at the DOJ shows he knows exactly how to do just that. As a former prosecutor, Steve understands the importance of federal and state law enforcement's efforts to combat and prevent violent crimes and will support the law enforcement officers within and working with ATF to enforce the laws on the books. With the finalization of the Biden-Harris Administration's ghost guns rule, Dettelbach is the right person to not only make sure it's enforced to the fullest extent of the law, but to reverse the ATF's culture of inaction and lead a top-to-bottom overhaul of the agency.

Steve Dettelbach will be the strong leader the ATF needs to implement President Biden's gun safety agenda and will be ready to provide strong enforcement of our gun laws from day one. As mayors, our job is to develop comprehensive public safety strategies that utilize every available tool to guarantee the safety of our residents. The ATF is in need of a permanent, Senate-confirmed director to fulfill the agency's mission and effectively regulate firearms. Mayors need a strong partner at the

helm of the ATF to support our efforts to reduce gun violence and curb the trafficking of illegal guns. For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Senate to swiftly confirm Steve Dettelbach as the Director of the ATF.

Sincerely,
Justin Bibb
Mayor of Cleveland, OH

Randall Woodfin
Mayor of Birmingham, AL

Jason Ward
Mayor of Lisman, AL

Timothy Ragland
Mayor of Talladega, AL

Frank Scott
Mayor of Little Rock, AR

Regina Romero
Mayor of Tucson, AZ

Farrah Khan
Mayor of Irvine, CA

Eric Garcetti
Mayor of Los Angeles, CA

Libby Schaaf
Mayor of Oakland, CA

Lisa Gillmor
Mayor of Santa Clara, CA

Todd Gloria
Mayor of San Diego, CA

Pauline Russo Cutter
Mayor of San Leandro, CA

Martha Guerrero
Mayor of West Sacramento, CA

Harry Rilling
Mayor of Norwalk, CT

Muriel Bowser
Mayor of Washington D.C.

Jane Castor
Mayor of Tampa, FL

Van Johnson
Mayor of Savannah, GA

Sharon Broome
Mayor of Baton Rouge, LA

Brandon Scott
Mayor of Baltimore, MD

Bridget Donnell Newton
Mayor of Rockville, MD

Kim Norton
Mayor of Rochester, MN

Melvin Carter
Mayor of Saint Paul, MN

Barbara Buffaloe
Mayor of Columbia, MO

Quinton Lucas
Mayor of Kansas City, MO

Tishaura Jones
Mayor of St. Louis, MO

Chokwe A. Lumumba
Mayor of Jackson, MS

Dontario Hardy
Mayor of Kinston, NC

TJ Cawley
Mayor of Morrisville, NC

Thaddeus J. Kobylarz
Mayor of Chatham Borough, NJ

Shawyn Patterson-Howard
Mayor of Mount Vernon, NY

Peter Scherer
Mayor of Pleasantville, NY

Thomas Bernabei
Mayor of Canton, OH

Jeffrey J. Mims
Mayor of Dayton, OH

Jack Bradley
Mayor of Lorain, OH

James Wolf
Mayor of Mount Healthy, OH

Richard M. Bain
Mayor of Pepper Pike, OH

David E. Weiss
Mayor of Shaker Heights, OH

Lacey Beaty
Mayor of Beaverton, OR

T. Scott Harden
Mayor of Wood Village, OR

James Kenney
Mayor of Philadelphia, PA

Ed Gainey
Mayor of Pittsburgh, PA

Tim Kelly
Mayor of Chattanooga, TN

Derrick Wood
Mayor of Dumfries, VA

Maria Rivera
Mayor of Central Falls, RI

John Cooper
Mayor of Nashville, TN

Satya Rhodes-Conway
Mayor of Madison, WI

Jorge Elorza
Mayor of Providence, RI

Thurman Bartie
Mayor of Port Arthur, TX

Cavalier Johnson
Mayor of Milwaukee, WI