



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,

On behalf of Everytown for Gun Safety Action Fund, the nation's largest gun violence prevention organization and our more than 8 million supporters, I write to express our strong support for the confirmation of Steve Dettelbach to be Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Throughout his career as a highly respected U.S. Attorney and career prosecutor, Dettelbach has led the fight against violent crime and domestic violent extremism, making him an excellent choice to lead the ATF. He has the law enforcement background necessary to succeed in this role, having worked extensively with law enforcement at the local, state, and federal levels – including ATF – to reduce crime and keep our communities safe. Additionally, having served as Chair of the Attorney General's Civil Rights Advisory Subcommittee at the Department of Justice, Dettelbach is no stranger to the inter-agency law enforcement work the ATF is critical in deploying. Dettelbach also has the experience bringing violent extremists to justice that ATF needs in its work on the front lines of that fight – as the recent horrific act of racially motivated violent extremism by a white supremacist in Buffalo makes all too clear.

ATF desperately needs strong leadership to ensure robust implementation and enforcement of our gun laws, to provide direction to the thousands of dedicated law enforcement officers within ATF, to fight for the resources the agency needs to be successful, and to lead the ATF into the 21st Century. There is significant bipartisan support for Dettelbach's nomination, including from law enforcement officials and organizations like Major County Sheriffs of America, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, and the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association.

Dettelbach will be ready to lead on Day One at ATF, and our communities will be safer because of it.

Sincerely,

John Feinblatt
President, Everytown for Gun Safety