

February 7, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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

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

Re: Letter in Support of Kristen Clarke, nominee for the United States Assistant Attorney General

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

I write in strong support of Kristen Clarke's nomination as Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice.

I served for two-terms as the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. During my time in office, my colleagues asked me to serve as President of the National Association of Secretaries of State and Chair of the Republican Association of Secretaries of State. To this day, I continue my work to improve our nation's elections, including assisting several national groups and organizations and serving on President Obama's bipartisan Presidential Commission on Election Administration.

I further took part in the National Task Force on Election Crises, a cross-partisan group of experts in election law, election administration, national security, cybersecurity, voting rights, civil rights, technology, media, public health, and emergency response. It is through this task force that I came to know Ms. Clarke, who was also a part of this group. Working towards a common goal of ensuring free and fair elections, I was able to observe Ms. Clarke's devotion to fairness, her commitment to the rule of law, and her unrelenting pursuit of ensuring that every voter is afforded the opportunity to vote.

This commitment comes as no surprise to me. Ms. Clarke was a freshman when I was a senior in college, and while we only met in passing, via our mutual friend and former Assistant US Attorney Alvin Bragg, who was her predecessor as President of the Harvard Black Students Association. Throughout Ms. Clarke's life and career, she has advocated for fairness and justice, and I have been extremely impressed by her commitment to protecting the rights of every person in this great country.

While Ms. Clarke and I might likely disagree on many policy debates, I have no reservations about her qualifications to become the Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division. I know well several individuals who have led the Civil Rights Division in both Republican and Democratic Administrations, and I firmly believe that Ms. Clarke's sterling credentials, her integrity, and her commitment to the rule of law make her an outstanding choice to lead that Division.

Thus, I was very pleased when I learned that President Biden had nominated Ms. Clarke. I urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to swiftly process her nomination, and for the Senate to quickly confirm her. She has this Republican's full and enthusiastic support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Trey' followed by a stylized 'G'.

Trey Grayson