



LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ADVANCING JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS

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Date: May 20, 2022

Re: ATF Director Nomination - Steve Dettelbach

Position: SUPPORT

To:

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

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

CC:

The United State Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

Thank you for the opportunity to support Steve Dettelbach's nomination to Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). As police, judges, prosecutors, and other criminal justice professionals across the U.S., the Law Enforcement Action Partnership (LEAP) heartily offers our endorsement of his nomination, and we look forward to seeing him bring the ATF into the 21st century.

A well respected former U.S. Attorney, Mr. Dettelbach has experience fighting violent crime, domestic extremism, and international crime syndicates. These experiences not only demonstrate that he has the ability to work with and coordinate activities between different law enforcement agencies and personnel, he is well-poised to address the cartels bringing immeasurable quantities of drugs across our borders.

ATF has had only one director confirmed by the U.S. Senate since 2006. A Senate-confirmed director is critical to giving the agency the tools and resources to carry out its mission and begin to address some of the most pressing problems facing our country. It is beyond time for the ATF to have a committed leader after sixteen years of primarily relying on interim

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Formerly known as Law Enforcement Against Prohibition

directors.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives needs strong leadership. Mr. Dettlebach's commitment to evidence-based approaches to addressing violence, his commitment to community-based solutions to improve law enforcement effectiveness and public safety by increasing community trust in our institutions and mechanisms for law enforcement, and his commitment to preventing, instead of reacting to, crime make him uniquely qualified for the role. His dedication to engaging stakeholders regardless of political ideology gives an idea of how he would comport himself as Director: applying the law equally to everyone and ensuring its application remains transparent.

Steve Dettelbach enjoys wide bipartisan support from law enforcement, and we are confident that you will receive the evidence needed to advance his nomination. It is our belief that Mr. Dettelbach could make a significant impact on the safety of our nation as the Director of ATF. As law enforcement professionals, we know how important a dedicated, qualified leader is to an agency's ability to keep our communities safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective in support of this important nomination.

Respectfully,

Lt. Diane Goldstein (Ret.)
Executive Director
Law Enforcement Action Partnership