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May 25, 2021

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

The Honorable Chuck E. Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Letter in Support of Anne Milgram, nominee for the Administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I write to you and Members of the Committee in support of President Joe Biden's nomination of Anne Milgram to serve as Administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). I have had the privilege of knowing Ms. Milgram for a substantial portion of my career, during which I have worked to assist immigrants and domestic violence victims of human trafficking. Ms. Milgram is an experienced leader who will bring the right balance of toughness and compassion needed to meet the DEA's vital mission.

Ms. Milgram's work as a prosecutor at every level on behalf of survivors of crime demonstrates her humane approach and dedication to justice. She worked as a state and federal prosecutor of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking crimes. She brought some of the first cases under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and was promoted to be the Special Litigation Counsel for human trafficking crime at the Department of Justice. I first witnessed the impact of her work while representing Mexican women who had been trafficked into the United States through family-operated crime rings. Ms. Milgram had helped to develop both the investigative strategy and prosecution framework in U.S. vs. Carreto, where dozens of young Mexican women had been brutally forced into prostitution in brothels throughout the New York City metropolitan area, including Queens and Brooklyn, between 1991 and 2004. Faced with significant levels of irrefutable evidence, all defendants in the Carreto case pled guilty, creating a precedent that has resulted in saving the lives of countless victims of sex trafficking throughout the nation.

Due to her wide ranging experience, Ms. Milgram is uniquely qualified to lead the DEA. As New Jersey Attorney General, she led over 9,000 people in the Department of Law & Public Safety, as well as oversaw around 30,000 members of local law enforcement statewide. Her meticulous approach to leveraging data and technology in law enforcement and pinpointing the root causes of crime, including homelessness, substance use, and mental health issues, has reduced and prevented violence, as well as enhanced the safety and health of communities. Her work in Camden, New Jersey demonstrates her ability to significantly transform what some would call the most dangerous places in our country.

I have also had the opportunity to work with Ms. Milgram during her highly sought-after Issues in Human Trafficking seminar, which she taught while serving as a professor at NYU Law School. During these seminars, I was not only struck by both the depth and breadth of **her knowledge on a wide range of issues around human trafficking, but the extraordinary ability she possesses to share her insights with her students, who clearly were inspired by her example. Ms. Milgram is a leader, whose intelligence, integrity and commitment to justice has left a profound impact on a generation of attorneys seeking to follow her example.**

As her extraordinary career demonstrates, Ms. Milgram possesses the experience, the grit, and insightfulness required for the Administrator of DEA. I support her nomination without reservation, and I urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to advance her nomination to the full Senate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lori Cohen
Chief Executive Officer
ECPAT-USA