

February 5, 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 Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice

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

I am writing in support of Kristen Clarke, the President's nominee to become the Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

I recently came to know Ms. Clarke through our work together on the National Task Force on Election Crises, a Task Force made up of a group of experts in election law, election administration, national security, cybersecurity, voting rights, civil rights, technology, media, public health, and emergency response. Ms. Clarke herself is a passionate civil rights expert and advocate, and I was readily impressed by her devotion and resolve to protect the right to vote.

Indeed, Ms. Clarke's deep and abiding commitment to protect the integrity of the vote speaks loudly about her character and appreciation for the rule of law. These are qualities that are essential in public servants who are entrusted with representing the United States, particularly within the Department of Justice. As someone who has served in the executive branch and judicial branch, I have the highest regard for our democratic institutions, and for the professionals who serve the American people every day as public servants. I firmly believe those who serve on behalf of the United States should exhibit the highest standards and be truth seekers and truth tellers. Ms. Clarke fits that description.

I urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to swiftly process Ms. Clarke's nomination, and for the Senate to quickly confirm her.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Chertoff