



POLICE EXECUTIVE  
RESEARCH FORUM

Chuck Wexler  
*Executive Director*

May 7, 2021

The Honorable Dick Durbin  
Chairman  
The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Ranking Member

U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I'm writing to express strong support for the nomination of David H. Chipman to serve as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

I'm Executive Director of the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), a Washington-based research organization that focuses on critical issues in policing and law enforcement.

I have known David for a decade. I first met him when as an ATF agent, he came to visit our office, and I was impressed with his knowledge of the complexities of gun violence. He struck me as a creative thinker and someone who cares deeply about making a difference. He became a member of PERF and a regular at our Town Hall meetings, offering solid information that helped inform our discussions.

David has enormous credibility as a 25-year veteran of ATF with on-the-ground experience. He helped recover bodies at the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, and worked at the scene of the World Trade Center bombing in 1993. This real-world perspective has helped inform his extensive leadership on policy and management issues.

David has demonstrated a deep understanding of gun crime issues from the perspective of PERF's members, many of whom are local police chiefs and sheriffs. He is well known by our members, and I know he will work well with local law enforcement leaders as Director of ATF. He is thoughtful and hard-working.

I urge you to give careful consideration to David Chipman's strong record of success, and to move promptly to confirm his nomination to lead the ATF at this critically important time.

Respectfully,

Chuck Wexler  
Executive Director