

April 23, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
US Senate
Washington, DC 205

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

I am writing in support of nominating a Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), a critically important position in light of the rising levels of firearm related violence that we are experiencing in our country today.

I am particularly supportive of the fact the current nominee before is you is a former career Special Agent with ATF. As former ATF Special Agents, we are very familiar with the important role that ATF plays in enhancing public safety, preventing violent crime, and keeping communities safe. A Director with such experience and knowledge would be very beneficial.

David Chipman certainly has that experience. As a career Special Agent with ATF, he spent over two decades serving and protecting the public from the most violent of criminals who relied upon firearms and explosives as the principal tools of their illicit trades.

Having served as an ATF Special Agent and having been assigned a tour as ATF's primary liaison to Congress, I am well aware that the Senate has the sole power to accept or reject presidential appointees. I am also keenly aware, that Senators and their constituents may have concerns about the nominees for various positions and that their concerns need to be vetted.

The Country needs a Senate confirmed ATF Director, and I hope that you and your colleagues will act with urgency to give the current nominee David Chipman a fair and thorough evaluation.

Sincerely,



Pete Gagliardi
Retired Special Agent in Charge, ATF New York