

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: National Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Leaders Letter of Support for Steve Dettelbach to be the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)

Dear Senator Durbin and Senator Grassley:

We are writing to you as current and former law enforcement officials from across the United States in support of the nomination of Steve Dettelbach as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF).

As law enforcement leaders, we've seen gun violence spike across the country during the past two years, devastating families and communities. We know it takes an all-hands-on-deck approach to keep our communities safe. A cornerstone of any comprehensive approach to addressing gun crime is ATF. ATF plays a critical role in ensuring the safety of our residents by stopping illegal guns from entering our communities, investigating the trafficking of illegal guns, and regulating the gun industry to root out bad actors.

To truly fulfill its mission, ATF needs a strong leader, but it's been nearly a decade since we've had a Senate-confirmed director at the agency. There is an urgent need for leadership that can bring the agency into the 21st Century and be the partner we need in this urgent moment. We are confident that Steve Dettelbach is the right person to lead the agency and should be confirmed immediately.

Steve Dettelbach has more than two decades of experience as a prosecutor, including serving as US Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio and in the Department of Justice. During his career as a prosecutor, Steve worked with federal, state, and local law enforcement to hold violent criminals - including murderers, child predators, and more than 40 human traffickers - accountable. He has worked on cases ranging from terrorism to hate crimes to gun crimes.

Steve Dettelbach brings a proven record of successfully working with law enforcement partners - including partnerships with the ATF - to fight violent crime, domestic violent extremism, and religious violence to prosecute complex cases and take down criminal elements. Dettelbach is the strong leader ATF needs and will be ready to provide strong enforcement of our gun laws from day one. He knows that ATF doesn't make the laws, it enforces them — and his long history in law enforcement shows he knows exactly how to do just that.

As law enforcement professionals, we need a strong partner at the helm of the ATF to support our efforts to reduce gun violence and curb the trafficking of illegal guns. In addition to Mr. Dettelbach's impeccable credentials and character, it is abundantly clear from his testimony during his confirmation hearing that he is the right person to lead the dedicated professionals at the ATF. This is affirmed by the more than 100 law enforcement and criminal justice leaders who have signed-on to this letter. Mr. Dettelbach has a steadfast commitment to public safety, just as we do, and we respectfully urge the Senate to swiftly confirm Steve Dettelbach as the Director of ATF confirm him quickly to lead the ATF.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Scott Thomson, former Camden County Police Chief 2008-2019; former President of PERF 2015-2019

Charles Ramsey, former DC Police Chief and Philadelphia Police Commissioner, former President of PERF and Major Cities Chiefs Association

Sean Smoot, Director & Chief Counsel, Police Benevolent & Protective Association  
Area 4 Vice President, National Association of Police Organizations  
Managing Partner, 21st Century Policing - 21CP Solutions LLC

Stephens, Darrel, Major Cities Chiefs Association Executive Director 2010-17, Charlotte-Mecklenburg PD Chief 1999-2008.

Gil Kerlikowske, former Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Director, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Chief of Police, Seattle Police Department, former President of PERF and Major Cities Chiefs Association

Acevedo, Art, Chief of Police, Austin, TX, 2008 - 2016; Chief of Police Houston, TX, 2016 - 2021; Past President Major Cities Chiefs Association

Kathleen O'Toole, Former Commissioner and Chief of Police, Boston and Seattle, Boston, MA

Hassan Aden, Police Chief (Retired), Alexandria VA/Greenville NC

Roman, Ivonne, Police Chief, Newark, NJ 2014; 30x30 initiative co-founder

Dine, Kim C. , Frederick Maryland Chief of Police 2002-2012, United States Capitol Chief of Police, 2012-2016

Terrance W. Gainer, United States Senate Senate Sergeant at Arms, 2007-2014; Chief, U S Capitol Police, 2002-2006; Director, Illinois State Police. 1991-1998;

Choi, John, Ramsey County Attorney, Saint Paul, MN (2011-present)

Engel, Robin, Professor, School of Criminal Justice, University of Cincinnati, 2002 - present

Bratton, William, Former NYPD and Boston Police Commissioner, former LAPD Police Chief

McLay, Cameron S, Chief of Police, Pittsburgh, PA 2014 - 2016; Senior Director, Center for Policing Equity, 2020 - present

Villasenor, Roberto, Chief of Police, Tucson, AZ, 2009-2016. Partner, 21CP Solutions, 2016-Present

Pendergraph Jim, Sheriff, Mecklenburg County SO (ret) Charlotte NC, 13 years as Sheriff, Homeland Security

Zinman, Kristen, Police Chief, Aurora IL, 2016-2021

Carmen Best, Seattle Police to Retired (28 years of service)

Hall, Renee', Chief of Police (Ret) Dallas Police Department 2017-2020

Handy, Robert, Huntington Beach, CA Police Chief 2011-2020

Miriam Aroni Krinsky, Federal Prosecutor (1987-2002); Special Advisor, LA Sheriff (2012); Executive Director, Fair and Just Prosecution (2017-present)

Alpert, Geoffrey, Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of South Carolina

Henninger, Dwight , Chief of Police Vail, CO 21 years

Carter, Zachary, United States Attorney EDNY 1993-99

Dixon, Frank , Chief of Police, Denton, Tx 2018-Present

Tucker, Benjamin B. First Deputy Commissioner, New York Police Department. 2014-2021;Deputy Director ,White House Office Of National Drug Control Policy(2010-2014),;Deputy Director Office of Community Oriented Policing Services ,US Department of Justice (1995-1999)

Walsh, John, U.S. Attorney, District of Colorado, 2010-2016

Stern, Donald K., United States Attorney, District of Massachusetts, 1993-2001

Slaughter, Daniel, Chief of Police, Clearwater FL, 2012-present

Beth McCann, Denver District Attorney

Gansler, Douglas, Maryland Attorney General, 2007-2015, Montgomery County States Attorney, 1999-2000, Assistant United States Attorney, 1992-1998

Joyce, Nola, Deputy Commissioner (Retired) Philadelphia Police Department

Grissom, Barry, US Attorney KS 2010-2016

Crawford, Dwayne Executive Director - NOBLE

Neusteter, S. Rebecca, Current Executive Director, UChicago Health Lab; Prior Founding Director Policing Program, Vera Institute of Justice; Prior Director of Research, Policy and Planning, NYPD

Goodrich, Maggie, former CIO for the Los Angeles Police Department, 2007-2017, CEO, TacLogix, Inc.

Robinson, Laurie, Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs, 1993-2000 and 2009-2012; Co-Chair, International Association of Chiefs of Police Research Advisory Committee, 2013-2020

Cox, Brendan, Police Chief Albany, NY 2015-2017

Gonzalez, Andres, Chief of Police, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, 2007-present

Gross, William, Police Commissioner, Boston, Ma, 2018-2021

Koutoujian, Peter, Sheriff, Middlesex County, MA, 2011-present

Anthony, Steve, Special Agent in Charge (Retired), FBI, Cleveland

James P. Abbott, Chief of Police West Orange, NJ

Christopher Hartung, Chief of Police Vermilion Ohio

Tim Roddy, Chief of Police, Struthers, Ohio

Brandon Standley, Chief of Police, Bellefontaine, Ohio

Claudio Trevino, Chief of Police, Laredo, Texas

Roy Vasque , Chief of Police , Lawrence Massachusetts

John F. Quinn, Chief of Police Waukee, Iowa

Brian Ohlin, Chief of Police, Brunswick, Ohio

Dornat Drummond, Interim Chief of Police, Cleveland Division of Police, Cleveland, OH

David Magnusson, Police Chief (Retired); El Portal, Florida

David T. Weigand, Chief of Police, Crestwood, Illinois

Brent Roalson, Chief of Police Ottawa, ILLINOIS

Mike Tusken, Chief of Police Duluth, MN

Kim Stewart, Sheriff Las Cruces, New Mexico

Antonio DeVaul, Chief of Police, Takoma Park, Maryland

Eric Robins, Chief of Police , Sugar Land

Michael McCoy, Chief of Police / Public Safety Director, Washington, Illinois 61571

Luther Reynolds, Chief of Police, Charleston SC

Jason Massimino, Chief of Police, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey

Patrick Finlon, Chief of Police Cary, Illinois

Wesley Holt, Sheriff, Greeneville, Tennessee

Richard Watson, Sheriff St Clair County, Illinois , Belleville Illinois

Adrian Diaz, Chief of Police, Seattle, WA

Rodney Smith, Sheriff County Sheriff, Athens Ohio

Larry Mincks, Washington County Ohio Sheriff

Brad Moericke, Chief of Police, Sumner Washington

Gilbert L Wilson, Sheriff, Camden County, NJ

Mike Feuer, City Attorney, Los Angeles, CA

Mark Howie, Sheriff, Cathlamet Wahkiakum County WA

Billy Parker, Chief of Police, Woodward Oklahoma

William Jessup, Police Chief, South Milwaukee, Wisconsin

George Lichman, Chief of Police, Rocky River, Ohio

Tommy Clark Jr., Chief of Police, Grambling , LA

Reginald L. Burgess, Chief of Police, North Charleston SC

Edward Santiago, Chief of Police, Sunny Isles Beach Florida

Daniel Isom, Public Safety Director-City of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

Glenn Scott, Police Commissioner, Mount Vernon, NY

Joel Merry, Sheriff, Bath, Maine

Mark Newport, Chief of Police , Portsmouth, NH

Paul Kifer, Chief of Police, Hagerstown, MD

Chris Blue, Chief of Police and Exec. Dir. for Community Safety, Chapel Hill, NC

John Choi, Ramsey County Attorney St. Paul, MN

Jim Eisenhut, Chief of Police, Indian Creek Village, Florida

Rod Underhill , Former Multnomah County District Attorney , Portland Oregon

Andrew Warren, State Attorney, Hillsborough County (FL), Tampa, Florida

Scott Shepherd, Chief, Cottage Grove Police Department, Cottage Grove, Oregon

Jody Kasper, Chief of Police, Northampton, MA

Gina Hawkins, Chief of Police, Fayetteville NC

Paul F. Williams, Chief of Police, Springfield, MO

Joey Terrell, Sheriff, Clarkesville Ga.

Keith Porch, Chief, Mansfield, Ohio

Louis Molepske, Jr., Portage County District Attorney, Stevens Point, WI

Michael Atwell, District Attorney, County of Alpine, Markleeville, California

Wayne Emerick, Sheriff, Bedford Pa.

Ronald Campurciani, Chief of Police, Mooresville, North Carolina

Derrick Diggs, Chief of Police Fort Myers, Florida

Jerry Clayton, Washtenaw County Sheriff, Ann Arbor, Michigan

James Mosciski, Sheriff , Standish Michigan

Jonathan Sahrbeck, District Attorney Portland, Maine

Craig Capri, Chief of Police, Eustis, Florida

Kevin J Schneider, Sheriff, Polk County Iowa

David A. Giorgi, Chief of Police, Marlborough, MA

Ronney Howard, Chief of Police , Alexandria, La.

David Wermes, Chief of Police, Wauconda, Illinois

Paul Fitzgerald, Sheriff, Nevada, Iowa