



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

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January 12, 2011

The Honorable Patrick R. Leahy, Chair
The Honorable Jeff Sessions, Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), we are writing to express our strong support for the nomination of Andrew Traver to become the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). We respectfully urge for you to swiftly confirm his nomination.

The relationship between local law enforcement and ATF is critically important. The ATF not only partners with local law enforcement to combat illegal trafficking and use of firearms and explosives; and the illegal division of alcohol and tobacco products, but also in the investigation and apprehension of dangerous criminal organizations who engage in such illegal activities. The individual selected to head ATF must recognize this vital relationship and continue to strengthen the collaboration between the ATF and local law enforcement throughout the United States

Mr. Traver has both the necessary on-the-ground and management experience to serve as the Director of the ATF. With an ATF career spanning over 23 years, he has served in a multitude of positions within the ATF, including his current position as the Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Field Division of the ATF, overseeing the entire state of Illinois and an office of approximately 160 agents, investigators, industry operations investigators, intelligence research specialists, and support staff; as a field agent responsible for the investigation and apprehension of violent criminals; and as a Assistant Special Agent in Charge responsible for ATF law enforcement operations in a multi-state area. These diverse experiences and qualifications make Mr. Traver the ideal candidate to serve as the head of this prestigious agency.

As one of the largest law enforcement associations in the United States, the National Sheriffs' Association is calling upon the United States Senate to confirm Andrew Traver as the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) without delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B.J. Roberts".

Sheriff B.J. Roberts
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron D. Kennard".

Aaron D. Kennard
Executive Director