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# NCJA National Criminal Justice Association

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September 10, 2009

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman  
The Honorable Jeff Sessions, Ranking member  
Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

We are very pleased to have this opportunity to express our enthusiastic support for Laurie Robinson for Assistant Attorney General. Members of the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) include the state, territorial and tribal chief executive officers of criminal justice agencies charged with managing federal, state, and tribal justice assistance resources as well as practitioners from all components of the criminal and juvenile justice systems. As an association and as the representatives of their individual jurisdictions, our members work closely with the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

Ms. Robinson, having served as Assistant Attorney General in the Clinton Administration, is well known to NCJA members. Throughout her prior tenure at the department, Ms. Robinson worked tirelessly to understand the needs and address the challenges facing state, local, and tribal criminal justice practitioners. She earned the deep respect of NCJA members for her knowledge of the issues, her unrelenting focus on measuring results and developing a body of evidence based practices, her ethical conduct in all matters particularly grants management, and her commitment to building partnerships across the criminal justice system.

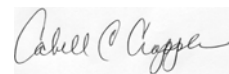
In her eight month tenure as Acting Assistant Attorney General, Ms. Robinson has shown that her commitment to these issues has not waned. From the first days of the Obama Administration, Ms. Robinson has devoted countless hours to engaging representatives of the criminal justice community in a dialogue about our nation's policy and funding priorities, seeking our input and offering her guidance. She has skillfully guided the implementation of the Recovery Act investment in the Byrne Justice Assistance and other grant programs. Her commitment to partnership is extraordinary and greatly appreciated.

Ms. Robinson has the confidence, trust and support of the state practitioners and, in our members' experience, of practitioners across the entire criminal justice spectrum nationwide. Her record, judgment, expertise, and commitment are unquestioned. We strongly urge her speedy confirmation.

Sincerely,



Roland Mena  
President



Cabell Cropper  
Executive Director

† denotes Executive Committee