June 20, 2013

Dear Senator,

On behalf of The National Law Enforcement Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence (The Partnership), I am pleased to offer our strong support for the nomination of B. Todd Jones to serve as the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

The Partnership is a coalition of national law enforcement leadership organizations concerned with the unacceptable level of gun violence in the United States, and the devastation it is having on communities across America.

Mr. Jones has a proven commitment and track record in protecting public safety as the current Acting Director of ATF, and having served as the United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota and as a judge advocate in the United States Marine Corps. The Partnership believes Mr. Jones to be the well-qualified, strong and effective leader necessary for ATF, which has been without a confirmed director for seven years.

ATF’s mission is to protect our communities from violent criminals, criminal organizations, the illegal use and trafficking of firearms, the illegal use and storage of explosives, acts of arson and bombings, acts of terrorism, and the illegal diversion of alcohol and tobacco products. Given the vital role that ATF plays in America’s safety it is unconscionable that the agency has not had a confirmed leader for the past seven years. Law enforcement and the American people cannot afford to wait any longer for the Senate to confirm a Director to lead this agency that plays such a critical role in preventing gun violence and keeping America safe.

We urge the United States Senate to act swiftly to confirm Mr. Jones.

Sincerely,

Chief Jim Johnson, Baltimore County, MD
Chair, National Law Enforcement Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence

Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA)
International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA)
International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCC)
National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE)
National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)
Police Foundation (PF)