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TESTIMONY OF ROBERT R. FUESSEL, NATIONAL PRESIDENT,  
FEDERAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION  
BEFORE THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
REGARDING THE CONFIRMATION OF JUDGE ANTHONY KENNEDY  
TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

"Dedicated to Recognition of Criminal Investigation as a Profession"

THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE; MY NAME IS ROBERT FUESEL. I AM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION AND A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL.

THE FCIA IS MADE UP OF AGENTS REPRESENTING MORE THAN 50 FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. THE PRIMARY GOAL OF THE ASSOCIATION IS TO REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THOSE PROFESSIONALS WHO COMPRISE THE FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY. WITH THAT IN MIND, WE SUPPORT THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO ASSIST US IN OBTAINING OUR GOAL. THEREFORE, THE FCIA SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF THOSE JURISTS WHO BY THEIR DECISIONS, SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST THE CRIMINAL ELEMENT. IT IS WITH THAT PURPOSE IN MIND THAT THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE FCIA, WISHES TO PLACE ON THE RECORD ITS HEARTY AND UNQUALIFIED ENDORSEMENT OF JUDGE ANTHONY KENNEDY TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

WE SINCERELY FEEL THAT OUR ASSOCIATION'S GOALS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL BE ADVANCED SUBSTANTIALLY BY THE CONFIRMATION OF JUDGE KENNEDY AS AN ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. HIS PERSONAL HONOR AND INTEGRITY, WHICH HE POSSESSES TO THE HIGHEST DEGREE, AND HAS DEMONSTRATED CONSISTENTLY IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE;
2. HIS DEDICATION TO VIGOROUS ENFORCEMENT, WITHIN CONSTITUTIONAL BOUNDARIES, OF THE CRIMINAL LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, AS EVIDENCED BY HIS LONG AND DISTINGUISHED RECORD OF SERVICE ON THE APPELLATE BENCH; AND
3. LIKE OTHERS WE BELIEVE THAT THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER, JUDGE KENNEDY HAS DEMONSTRATED A REAL CONCERN FOR THE PROBLEMS OF LAWLESSNESS AND VIOLENCE IN OUR SOCIETY, AND A MARKED SENSITIVITY TO THE CONCERNS FACING TODAY'S LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS.

WE RESPECTFULLY SUGGEST THAT JUDGE KENNEDY WILL BRING TO THE SUPREME COURT HIS EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE AND LEGAL EXPERIENCE. HE IS KNOWN TO HAVE BALANCED VIEWS ON

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND A COMMITMENT TO THE RULE OF THE LAW. JUDGE KENNEDY'S VIEWS ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE ISSUES HAVE EARNED HIM A REPUTATION FOR FAIRNESS, OPEN-MINDEDNESS AND SCHOLARSHIP AND ARE IN ACCORD WITH THE VIEWS OF OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

THIS ENDORSEMENT IS BASED UPON THE COLLECTIVE EXPERIENCE OF THOSE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS WHO ARE CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENFORCING OUR NATION'S LAWS. YOU HERE TODAY ALL KNOW THE TYPE OF DEDICATED CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS OF WHOM I SPEAK. THEY ARE THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SPEND THEIR ENTIRE WORKING DAYS AND NIGHTS IN THE STREETS OF OUR GREAT COUNTRY ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WORKING AGAINST THOSE WHO ARE BENT ON CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES. WE KNOW THAT ALL OF YOU HERE TODAY SUPPORT THE DAILY ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS OF THESE AGENTS. LEST THERE BE ANY DOUBT, WE ARE BEFORE YOU NOW TO STATE UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT THOSE AGENTS SUPPORT FULLY THE NOMINATION OF JUDGE KENNEDY.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, WE ARE MAKING THIS ENDORSEMENT BECAUSE WE SINCERELY BELIEVE, BASED ON OUR EXPERIENCE AND JUDGE KENNEDY'S RECORD, THAT HIS CONFIRMATION TO THE SUPREME COURT WOULD BE OF BENEFIT NOT ONLY TO THE FEDERAL ENFORCEMENT EFFORT, BUT TO THE ENTIRE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY OF THE UNITED STATES. THANK YOU.