November 12, 2013

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper,
Chairman U.S. Senate Committee
on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper:

We write to you as the three officials who have been tasked with the important responsibility of securing our nation’s homeland. As the former Homeland Security secretaries, we understand firsthand the qualities and abilities that an individual must possess to perform this critical mission effectively. With this in mind, we express our strong support for the confirmation of Jeh Charles Johnson as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Leading a department the size and scope of DHS is a unique challenge. Mr. Johnson’s experience and ability makes him an eminently qualified nominee. His service at the highest levels of the U.S. Department of Defense, the largest government agency in the world, provided him a keen understanding of and the logistics required to successfully execute large-scale, operational missions of varying complexity and purpose. His skill at coordination will be of prime importance at DHS as he will be in charge of overseeing its seven major operating components, including FEMA and other federal partners to help manage disaster response, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Secret Service, the TSA, and the three immigration and border enforcement components.

Further, Mr. Johnson’s participation on the senior leadership team at the Department of Defense has provided him with invaluable and direct experience helping to lead an agency involved in combating the global terrorist threat, a perspective that will benefit him as he implements a key element of DHS’ mission, combatting terrorism here at home.

In addition, through his previous service as an assistant U.S. attorney, Mr. Johnson has experience working directly with Federal, state, and local law enforcement and can continue to develop this critical DHS partnership.

These abilities have already been recognized by law enforcement organizations as well as bipartisan officials from both sides of the aisle currently and previously involved in ensuring our national security.

We resoundingly add our names to that list, and more importantly, believe that Mr. Johnson’s abilities and experiences will not only continue the important effort the Department of Homeland Security is charged with, but build on the progress made over the last 10 years to combat an ever evolving threat, and make our communities more resilient.

We hope the committee will move quickly to approve this nomination.

Sincerely,

Tom Ridge

Michael Chertoff

Janet Napolitano
November 12, 2013

The Honorable Tom A. Coburn  
M.D., Ranking Member U.S. Senate Committee  
on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Coburn:

We write to you as the three officials who have been tasked with the important responsibility of securing our nation’s homeland. As the former Homeland Security secretaries, we understand firsthand the qualities and abilities that an individual must possess to perform this critical mission effectively. With this in mind, we express our strong support for the confirmation of Jeh Charles Johnson as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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We hope the committee will move quickly to approve this nomination.

Sincerely,

Tom Ridge
Michael Chertoff
Janet Napolitano
November 1, 2013

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Coburn
Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
344 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Coburn:

On behalf of the 26,000 members of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), including federal law enforcement officers from all DHS components, I am writing to express our support for the nomination of Jeh Johnson for the position of Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

An objective review of Mr. Johnson’s biography makes clear that he represents a conglomerate of relevant experience for the position. Rather than simply reiterate his lengthy accomplishments, I would instead prefer to draw your attention to the significance of his national security and defense experience. While the cabinet is entitled the Department of Homeland Security, it has been criticized for having a gap in its prior intelligence capabilities. Additionally, prior criticism has suggested that the working relationship between the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of Homeland Security has been less than symbiotic.

Mr. Johnson’s unique skill-set will help bridge this divide, and empower DHS with the necessary intelligence perspective it needs to best fulfill its formidable mission. Given Mr. Johnson's sterling reputation as a "consensus builder," I am confident he will strengthen working relationships between DHS and DOD law enforcement components.

The dedicated law enforcement officers within DHS expect and deserve open-minded, strong leadership, and I am confident that Mr. Johnson will deliver on this front. There has been lingering controversy regarding the department’s immigration enforcement policy, and I expect Mr. Johnson will exude the proper leadership to address and resolve this important issue. Furthermore, I anticipate his continuing Secretary Napolitano's dedicated working relationship with the DHS Federal Law Enforcement Advisory Board.
In recognition of the critical safety and security mission of the Department, and the fact that violent criminals don't take pause, I respectfully request that your committee review Mr. Johnson's credentials objectively, and vote to confirm him as our next Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

Respectfully,

Jon Adler
Jon Adler
FLEOA National President
Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Coburn:

On behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), I am pleased to inform you of our support for the nomination of Mr. Jeh Johnson to serve as the next Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The IACP believes that the selection of Mr. Johnson is a logical decision and one that will enhance and strengthen the DHS’s mission and ability to ensure our homeland is safe, secure, and resilient against terrorism and other hazards.

Prior to our endorsement we had the opportunity to review his resume’ and it is quite impressive. In addition, the IACP performed its due diligence by having a number of meetings and conversations with leadership within the DHS and with those that had interaction with Mr. Johnson throughout his career. The response by those that worked with him, or had interactions with him, was very positive. The comments about Mr. Johnson were consistent; he is highly respected, pragmatic, intelligent, and understands the needs of the people that he serves and supports.

Although we would have enjoyed a face-to-face meeting with Mr. Johnson, the IACP was able to hold a conference call with him. Our conversation reaffirmed the sentiment expressed by others. We made clear the priorities of the IACP and the need for the continued support for the National Network of Fusion Centers, the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative, information sharing, countering violent extremism, continued funding for the work of FEMA in the area of response and recovery, and an increased focus and training to prevent and address active shootings. We also spoke to him regarding Cyber Security and the significant threat that it poses to the national security of our country, and the need for the Department to take a leadership role in this area.
We were able to brief Mr. Johnson on the IACP’s positive working relationship with the DHS, especially as it relates to the partnership, the responsiveness, and the feedback that is provided, not only with headquarters, but each of the components. Mr. Johnson stated that if nominated as Secretary of the DHS he would continue to work to strengthen and increase the partnership between the IACP and DHS.

It is the position of the IACP that Mr. Johnson’s prior experience serving as the General Counsel of the Department of Defense and General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force make him highly qualified to handle the unique and diverse challenges our country faces. Equally important is the time he spent serving as the Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York, where he worked closely with the New York City Police Department and also the surrounding law enforcement agencies. During our discussions, Mr. Johnson provided a sincere understanding and appreciation of the crucial role federal, state, local, and tribal enforcement agencies play and the support they need to continue to effectively and efficiently respond to natural disasters and criminal events.

As a result, we believe, he is well positioned to serve as the next Secretary of DHS. Therefore, the IACP urges you to rapidly confirm Mr. Johnson’s nomination.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr. Bart R. Johnson, Executive Director, if the IACP may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

ChiefYousry Zakhary
President
October 21, 2013
The Honorable Tom Carper
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Carper:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), I am pleased to inform you of our support for the nomination of Jeh Johnson to serve as the next Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

NAPO is a coalition of police unions and associations from across the United States that serves to advance the interests of America’s law enforcement through legislative and legal advocacy, political action, and education. Founded in 1978, NAPO now represents more than 1,000 police units and associations, 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers, and more than 100,000 citizens who share a common dedication to fair and effective crime control and law enforcement.

Mr. Johnson is one of the most highly qualified and respected national security leaders. Mr. Johnson served nearly seven years in senior leadership roles at the Department of Defense (DoD) during two Administrations. He was a critical member of President Obama’s counterterrorism team. By advising the President and two Secretaries of Defense, Mr. Johnson was at the center of the development of some of the most sensitive and important national security policies and strategies during President Obama’s first term.

Mr. Johnson has been a dedicated career public servant, and has continually evidenced his integrity and strong judgment. Throughout his career, Mr. Johnson has demonstrated that he is exceptionally qualified to handle the full range of challenges faced by DHS.

We urge the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee to act swiftly in confirming Mr. Johnson for this critical position. If NAPO can provide any additional information to support Mr. Johnson’s nomination, please do not hesitate to contact me at: (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Chairman U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom A. Coburn, M.D., Ranking Member U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Coburn:

It is my great pleasure to offer this letter of support for the confirmation of Mr. Jeh Johnson to be Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. He is a man of unimpeachable integrity who possesses in rare combination all of the very highest qualities we seek in our most senior national leadership. His confirmation as the Secretary will not only place the right person in this key national security position at a critical and challenging moment in our history, it will instill confidence in the American people that the greatest talent in America remains engaged in and committed to the service of our country.

I have known and worked closely with Jeh Johnson in crisis and in war while he served as the General Counsel of the Department of Defense. During that time, I was serving as the Deputy Commander of the US Central Command and as Commander of the US and NATO Forces in Afghanistan. This was a period of substantial challenge to the national security of the United States, which included piracy in the Indian Ocean, the emergence of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, Iranian support for regional terrorism and its illicit nuclear program, difficulties with Pakistan, and the prosecution of two on-going wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

To that end, I dealt frequently with Mr. Johnson on some of the most important and sensitive issues we faced. His calm leadership, his focused attention on the legal aspects of so wide a diversity of issues, and his utter commitment to the rule of law, played an enormously important role in ensuring the United States of America remained on the moral and legal high ground. As a
consequence, no one who dealt with Mr. Johnson on these myriad challenges could come away from the experience with other than the most profound respect for his knowledge and ultimate confidence in his sense of honor and purpose. He is THE selfless servant and humble leader.

There is very little ambiguity in how Marines view the security of America. After forty-two years in uniform, and having now retired, the enemies of our people have now passed beyond my reach. It is no small concern to me who will now protect my family and my new grandson. To that extent, the nomination of Jeh Johnson to this vital role fills me with confidence, for the world today has presented the United States and her allies with an unprecedented, and seemingly intractable array of threats which in a very real sense are aimed directly at the United States, at our incomparable way of life, and at our precious people. Securing the blessings of America will require much from us in the months and years ahead, and the Department of Homeland Security will be at the forefront of that struggle. The leadership of this Department will demand the ultimate combination of intellect, character, fortitude, and integrity. Jeh Johnson possesses all these qualities in abundance … and much more. In the strongest possible terms, I recommend and support his confirmation as the Secretary of Homeland Security.

With great and aiding respect,

John R. Allen
General, U.S. Marine Corps (Retired)
5 November 2013

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper  The Honorable Thomas A. Coburn, M.D.,
Chairman  Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security and  Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs  Governmental Affairs
United States Senate  United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510  Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Senator Coburn,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our support for the nomination of Jeh C. Johnson to be the next Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Following graduation from Columbia University Law School, Mr. Johnson began his career in public service as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York, where he prosecuted public corruption cases. He left the U.S. Attorney’s Office in 1991 and spent the next seven years in private practice before being appointed as General Counsel for the U.S. Air Force. He served in that post for more than two years. From 2001-2004, he chaired the Judiciary Committee of the New York Bar Association and then returned to public service in 2009 when he was confirmed by the Senate to be the next General Counsel for the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). He served in this post until late 2012.

Mr. Johnson has shown himself to be a dedicated public servant with keen insight and experience on how to keep our nation safe from the overt and clandestine threats that we face. His hands-on knowledge of our anti-terrorism programs and efforts through the DoD make him uniquely qualified to assume the leadership of the Homeland Security Department. In his conversations with the Fraternal Order of Police, he has pledged to maintain an open-door policy as well as a commitment to consultation on homeland security issues and the vital role that State and local law enforcement play in keeping our nation safe. We believe that he will be a partner with whom we can work and rely on as Secretary.

On behalf of the more than 330,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the nomination of Jeh C. Johnson. We urge the Committee to act swiftly to approve the nomination and to send it to the Senate floor for a final vote. If I can provide any additional information in support of Mr. Johnson, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

Chuck Canterbury
National President
October 29, 2013

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Coburn:

I am writing to enthusiastically endorse and recommend confirmation of Jeh C. Johnson as the next Secretary of Homeland Security.

When I was secretary of defense under President Obama, Mr. Johnson was my general counsel. I came to rely heavily on his judgment and common sense, and looked to him for advice on many matters beyond his legal responsibilities. Navigating a bureaucracy far more complex and larger than DHS’s, Jeh played a central role on cyber issues, counter-terrorism, relationships with other agencies and with foreign governments. He also co-led perhaps the most sensitive and culturally fraught issue I dealt with in four-and-a-half years as secretary – the repeal of Don’t Ask-Don’t Tell. This involved direct interactions with the leaders of all the military services and thousands of men and women in uniform, as well as recommending the training needed before implementation and changing or updating myriad Pentagon policies and regulations. In no small part due to Mr. Johnson’s effort, this monumental change took place virtually without incident.

In all these endeavors, Jeh demonstrated great skill in dealing with both the White House and the Congress, as well as inside the Department of Defense. Take my word for it: he has successfully managed an array of major initiatives across the biggest bureaucracy in government – and, in so doing, won the esteem of virtually everyone with whom he worked.

I am totally confident Jeh Johnson’s experience, temperament, judgment and character amply qualify him to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense, 2006-2011
November 1, 2013

The Honorable Tom Carper  The Honorable Tom Coburn
172 Russell Senate Office Building  513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510  Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Coburn,

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, representing the 66 largest law metropolitan areas in the Nation, I am writing to support the nomination of Jeh Johnson as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

We commend Mr. Johnson’s distinguished accomplishments in public service, including his tenure as Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York, and General Counsel of both the Air Force and the Department of Defense. His past actions have demonstrated support for the Nation’s law enforcement officers, and show a keen sensitivity to the issues we face every day.

The Major Cities Chiefs have interviewed Mr. Johnson, and we are confident that his policies and approach to homeland security issues are congruent with law enforcement needs and priorities. His presentation and responses to our questions demonstrate both a sensitivity and understanding that will serve the public well. We believe that he will work to forge an enduring partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and law enforcement agencies across America.

As our Nation continues to face threats from terrorism and natural disasters, we look forward to an even stronger partnership with the Department of Homeland Security under Mr. Johnson’s leadership. Together, we will do all we can to protect the communities we are sworn to serve.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey
Philadelphia Police Department
President
Major Cities Chiefs Association
The Hon. Thomas R. Carper, Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Carper:

I write in support of Jeh Johnson’s nomination to serve as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. I first came to know him when he served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York from 1989 to 1991, at a time when I was a District Judge in that district. He appeared before me several times and was a notably able and responsible Assistant. He well understood that his job wasn’t merely to win cases, and that he had a responsibility to turn square corners, which he fulfilled admirably.

Later, after I had served as Attorney General and he was counsel to the Department of Defense, he and I spoke frequently about matters relating principally to national security and detainee treatment. During those conversations and meetings, which included people with a diverse range of views, I came to appreciate his openness and soundness of judgment.

Based on that acquaintance I have no hesitation in supporting his nomination. He will bring to DHS not only experience but also a frame of mind that should be a source of assurance to anyone concerned with the security of this country. He understands both the issues and the stakes, and will make an excellent Secretary.

On a personal note, it is good to have the occasion to be in touch with you again. If there is any further information I can provide, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Michael B. Mukasey
The Hon. Tom A. Coburn, M.D., Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ranking Member Coburn:

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Department of Homeland Security. I first came to know him when he served as an
Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York from 1989 to 1991, at a
time when I was a District Judge in that district. He appeared before me several times
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Yours sincerely,

Michael B. Mukasey

New York • Washington, D.C. • London • Paris • Frankfurt • Moscow • Hong Kong • Shanghai
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom A. Coburn, M.D. Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

October 31, 2013

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Coburn:

I write in strong support of the nomination of Mr. Jeh Johnson by the President of the United States to be the next Secretary of Homeland Security. Mr. Johnson is an enormously talented professional who possesses all of the skills needed to succeed in this most challenging post.

I came to know Mr. Johnson when I was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and he was the General Counsel for the Department of Defense, serving the then-Secretary of Defense Bob Gates. Participating with him in the most difficult and high-pressure circumstances. I had the opportunity to observe him in action, under fire, over time. He was always calm, measured and thoughtful in providing his counsel, which was always reasoned and meaningful. He addressed forthrightly the most sensitive issues we faced, including detention, interrogation, and the use of drones. And he was not afraid to be the only one in the room with a different view and to voice it.

Alongside the National Security emergencies he navigated, Mr. Johnson was able to help guide the department through other critical issues. He led brilliantly throughout the process culminating in the repeal of Don’t ask, Don’t Tell, for example. Simply stated, this historic change would not have taken place without his counsel his wisdom, and his relentless attention to the details of implementation.

Jeh Johnson is as fine a person and professional as I have ever met. I am confident in his choice and that he will succeed in leading this most complex organization at a critical time in our country.

M. G. Mullen  
Admiral, U. S. Navy (ret.)  
17th Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff
November 8, 2013

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper:

I am writing to offer my full support of Jeh Johnson's nomination to lead the Department of Homeland Security. During my time as Secretary of Defense, Jeh proved himself many times over to be a trusted and highly capable advisor, a skilled manager and policy implementer, and a government servant fully committed to protecting his country. With incredibly strong judgment and instinct, Jeh has been an integral part of executing Department strategy and keeping our nation safe. I strongly recommend that Jeh be confirmed as the next Secretary of Homeland Security.

As General Counsel of the Department of Defense, Jeh was responsible for advising and helping shepherd our efforts on a number of major national security measures, including border security and cyber security. I am confident Jeh is the right person to continue the work of strengthening our borders and protecting our nation’s critical infrastructure in this new role. Jeh was also part of the team that ensured that the National Guard was poised to assist FEMA and DHS in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. At this tragic and critical time in our nation’s history, Jeh proved to be both a skilled manager and a leader in crisis.

Jeh worked hand in glove with the Joint Chiefs of Staff on operational issues, readiness issues, and on policy issues. Jeh was an integral player in instituting a significant change to Department Policy when the Pentagon implemented the repeal of “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” throughout the armed services. Jeh was able to implement policy in a way that elevated the views of all stakeholders, including the views of our service members and their families. His inclusive and measured approach won bipartisan support for this major policy change.

Jeh’s ability to reach across the aisle and build bipartisan consensus was also evident in his working with both Republican and Democrats on the issue of detention and interrogation of terror suspects. Jeh worked closely with Defense Department leadership and Congress to ensure our national security professionals were able to collect the intelligence necessary to protect the homeland, while also demonstrating his strong commitment to and stringent application of the rule of law.

Jeh has proven himself to be a talented, capable, bipartisan, and trusted public servant. I give my strongest recommendation and full support to his confirmation as our nation’s next Secretary of Homeland Security.

Sincerely,

Leon E. Panetta

LIP: jb
November 8, 2013

The Honorable Tom A. Coburn, M.D.
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Leon E. Panetta

LE:P:jb
November 12, 2013

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper,
Chairman U.S. Senate Committee
on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper:

We write to you as the three officials who have been tasked with the important responsibility of securing our nation's homeland. As the former Homeland Security secretaries, we understand firsthand the qualities and abilities that an individual must possess to perform this critical mission effectively. With this in mind, we express our strong support for the confirmation of Jeh Charles Johnson as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Leading a department the size and scope of DHS is a unique challenge. Mr. Johnson's experience and ability makes him an eminently qualified nominee. His service at the highest levels of the U.S. Department of Defense, the largest government agency in the world, provided him a keen understanding of and the logistics required to successfully execute large-scale, operational missions of varying complexity and purpose. His skill at coordination will be of prime importance at DHS as he will be in charge of overseeing its seven major operating components, including FEMA and other federal partners to help manage disaster response, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Secret Service, the TSA, and the three immigration and border enforcement components.

Further, Mr. Johnson's participation on the senior leadership team at the Department of Defense has provided him with invaluable and direct experience helping to lead an agency involved in combating the global terrorist threat, a perspective that will benefit him as he implements a key element of DHS' mission, combating terrorism here at home.

In addition, through his previous service as an assistant U.S. attorney, Mr. Johnson has experience working directly with Federal, state, and local law enforcement and can continue to develop this critical DHS partnership.

These abilities have already been recognized by law enforcement organizations as well as bipartisan officials from both sides of the aisle currently and previously involved in ensuring our national security.

We resoundingly add our names to that list, and more importantly, believe that Mr. Johnson's abilities and experiences will not only continue the important effort the Department of Homeland Security is charged with, but build on the progress made over the last 10 years to combat an ever evolving threat, and make our communities more resilient.

We hope the committee will move quickly to approve this nomination.

Sincerely,

Tom Ridge

Michael Chertoff

Janet Napolitano
November 12, 2013

The Honorable Tom A. Coburn  
M.D., Ranking Member U.S. Senate Committee  
on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Coburn:

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Sincerely,

Tom Ridge

Michael Chertoff

Janet Napolitano
October 30th 2013

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Coburn, M.D., Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Coburn:

As a former Homeland Security advisor to President George W. Bush, I am writing to support the nomination of Jeh Johnson as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

I commend Mr. Johnson for his distinguished career in public service, including as General Counsel for the Department of Defense and the Department of the Air Force, and as Assistant US Attorney for the Southern District of New York. While at the Department of Defense, Mr. Johnson was the senior lawyer for the largest government agency in the world, charged with undertaking the prior legal review and approval of every military operation approved by the President and Secretary of Defense. As an Assistant US Attorney, he has managed the investigation and prosecution of crimes that gravely threaten our nation each day. He executed these duties in an exemplary manner.

Mr. Johnson is uniquely qualified to lead the Department of Homeland Security. He possesses an in-depth understanding of the threats and challenges facing our homeland. He is also widely respected across our government as a team player, and will work well with state, local and tribal governments — and across the Federal government — to ensure cooperation and collaboration on issues affecting our national and homeland security.

I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Mr. Johnson and ask for his swift confirmation. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this nomination further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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