

Chairman Lieberman, Senator Collins, and distinguished Members of the Committee, I am honored to appear before you today.

I am deeply humbled by the confidence that President Obama has shown in me by nominating me to be the second Director of the Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement (CNE) at the Department of Homeland Security, and I am grateful to Secretary Napolitano for recommending me for this important position.

Before I start, I'd like to introduce you to my brother, Darwin Cadogan, who prior to retiring, was a Special Agent with the Department of State Bureau of Diplomatic Security for 30 years, and before that, a Corrections Officer with the New York City Department of Corrections. He has supported me throughout my career.

Should I be confirmed, I look forward to working with the dedicated men and women of CNE and the entire Department of Homeland Security to protect our nation from threats, and ensuring that CNE is an effective and valued member of the counternarcotics enterprise.

If confirmed, I will draw upon my almost 29-year career as a law enforcement officer, which includes 22 years as a special agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration. I have worked on the front lines of the War on Drugs as a case and undercover agent and as a supervisor. I know what it takes to coordinate a successful drug enforcement operation in a multi-jurisdictional task force environment. I also have experience managing Headquarters' staff; directing, coordinating, and planning programs; and motivating and mentoring employees. I have acquired the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to provide competent and accountable leadership, and I have learned how to achieve change within an organization.

Moreover, from working foot patrol in New Haven, CT as a member of the Yale University Police Department, to developing complex drug conspiracy investigations for DEA, to conducting undercover operations training for the Polish National Police in Warsaw, I have developed collaborative working relationships with many state and local police departments, federal agencies, and international law enforcement entities. In fact, in my current position at DEA Headquarters, I oversee special studies and projects focused specifically on interagency collaboration—affording me a unique understanding of the interagency process and how to strengthen partnerships across the federal government.

Today, our Nation finds itself facing a difficult challenge – how do we combat the illicit drug trade and smuggling activities while facilitating the legitimate movement of goods and people across our borders? Highly complex and sophisticated criminal organizations test our nation's security on a daily basis by attempting to smuggle drugs, people, weapons, and money across our borders. Moreover, these criminal organizations are constantly evolving, forcing us to re-think our methods for dealing with them.

Part of the Department of Homeland Security's primary mission, as set forth in the Homeland Security Act of 2002, is to “monitor connections between illegal drug trafficking and terrorism, coordinate efforts to sever such connections, and otherwise contribute to efforts to

interdict illegal drug trafficking.” CNE is a unique office geared towards coordinating DHS’s efforts to fulfill this mandate. CNE both coordinates the Department’s work with state, local, and tribal law enforcement on these issues and represents the Department within the interagency community on counternarcotics policy and operations. If confirmed, I will lead the Office in its efforts to fully and effectively carry out these responsibilities.

First, if I am confirmed, CNE will ensure coordination of DHS’s various counternarcotics activities along the borders by strengthening the Office’s partnerships with our counterparts both within and outside of the Department. Secondly, I will ensure that the DHS counternarcotics enterprise succeeds by assessing the resources needed to fulfill the Department’s counternarcotics mission, and working closely with all DHS components with counternarcotics missions to identify opportunities for collaboration to avoid unnecessary duplication. The annual development of this data will be used to inform the Department’s financial and human capital resources needed for an effective and efficient counternarcotics effort. Third, I will work with DHS component heads to ensure that each component is properly incorporating the Department’s mandate to track and sever the ties between drug trafficking and terrorism into its operations.

In addition, if confirmed, as the primary adviser to the Secretary for counternarcotics issues, I will work to advocate for the counternarcotics mission both within and outside of the Department. Internally, I will establish a proactive, positive relationship with Secretary Napolitano’s other advisors on policy and operational matters, and further develop previously established mechanisms, such as the Counternarcotics Coordinating Council, to coordinate the Department’s counternarcotics activities with senior DHS leadership. Externally, I will enhance partnerships across the interagency community by establishing regular contact with non-DHS officials and entities and strengthening outreach and collaboration with state, local, and tribal officials.

In conclusion, I believe that my background and experience have prepared me to take on the significant and varied responsibilities of the Director of the Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement. I would like to thank the Committee for considering my nomination. If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with Members of the Committee, the Committee staff, and the Congress as a whole. Thank you.