



SAN JOSE POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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February 16, 2017

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Committee on Health, Education,
Labor and Pensions
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education,
Labor and Pensions
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Senator Murray,

I am writing on behalf of the San Jose Police Officers' Association in support of the nomination of R. Alexander Acosta as Secretary of Labor. He is a committed public servant who has served with distinction in several positions. He has always served with ability and integrity, demonstrating care and concern for people of all walks of life. He is a strong supporter of law enforcement and of promoting positive relations between police and the communities they serve. We are confident that he will bring the same qualities and skills to the position of Secretary of Labor.

Alex's parents fled Communist Cuba for a better life in the United States and pursued the American dream by working hard at menial jobs. They did this in order to provide greater opportunities for their son. This example of work ethic and determination inspired and enabled him to earn both his undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard.

Mr. Acosta has a history of distinguished public service. He was a member of the National Labor Relations Board, where he participated in or authored more than 125 opinions. Following the NLRB, he was Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division at the United States Department of Justice and was the first Hispanic to hold the rank of Assistant Attorney General.

Mr. Acosta's government service was primarily spent serving as the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida. He was the longest serving U.S. Attorney in the District since the 1970s and this district has one of the three heaviest criminal dockets of any U.S. Attorneys' office. It consists of 5 offices across South Florida and requires considerable managerial skills. As US Attorney, Mr. Acosta dealt with prosecutions of the Cali Drug Cartel, FARC rebels, and the José Padilla for terrorism case. Under his leadership, his office also targeted white collar crime, prosecuting several bank-related cases, including a landmark case against Swiss bank UBS. This legally complex case resulted in UBS paying \$780 million in fines, and for the first time in history, the Swiss banking giant provided the United States with the names of individuals who were using secret Swiss bank accounts to avoid U.S. taxes. Mr. Acosta also had excellent relations with state and local law enforcement throughout his time as a United States Attorney.

Again, I sincerely support the nomination of Alex Acosta as Secretary of Labor and I firmly believe he will serve with the integrity and skill the position requires. I respectfully urge your consideration of our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Paul Kelly
President