

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE RECORD



EMORY

Office of the General Counsel
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June 23, 2003

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
 Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
 United States Senate
 Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
 Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
 United States Senate
 Washington, DC 20510

Re: Chris Wray; Nominee for Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division,
 Department of Justice

Dear Senator Hatch and Senator Leahy:

After President Bush nominated Chris Wray, I phoned Chris with my congratulations and an offer to lend my full and unqualified support during the confirmation process. With his confirmation hearing scheduled for this week, I write now, enthusiastically, to provide that support.

When I served as the Presidentially-appointed United States Attorney in Atlanta during President Clinton's Administration, I already knew Chris as a shooting star in the legal community. He and I had worked closely together on a case in private practice and he immediately impressed me with his legal acumen, sound judgment, and effectiveness. I urged him to apply as an Assistant United States Attorney, and was honored to hire him when he did.

As a federal prosecutor, Chris continued to distinguish himself in the justice community. Federal, state and local law enforcement agents all highly respected him, judges told me of his exceptional performance in court, and defense attorneys consistently viewed him as tough but fair. His judgment was always sound and balanced. And, refreshingly, despite Chris' stellar academic record and professional accomplishments, he has at all times remained down to earth.

Since Chris's days as a federal prosecutor, I have taken particular pride in following his career at the Justice Department. Not surprisingly, I have heard glowing reports from those I know in the Department. Indeed, his experience as the Principal Associate Deputy Attorney

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General assisting the Deputy in overseeing the operations of the Department, coupled with his experience in the U.S. Attorney's Office trying cases and overseeing investigations, makes Chris an ideal candidate to head the Criminal Division. As you know, the importance of appreciating both the Main Justice and the "Field" perspectives on criminal prosecutions and policies cannot be overstated.

After Chris's nomination, I read one article questioning his age, 36, and had to smile. When I was nominated as United States Attorney at the same age, I was asked about my youth. I noted at the time that the Senator who recommended me, Sam Nunn, was only 34 when elected to the U.S. Senate. While I am certainly no Sam Nunn, I observed then and have appreciated more since that age is of course relative. The older I get, the younger everyone under 40 seems to become.

Chris Wray is extraordinary and will make an extraordinary Assistant Attorney General. I assume he will have an easy go of the confirmation process, but please feel free to contact me if you or your colleagues have any questions at all. As I said, Chris has my full, unqualified, and enthusiastic support.

Sincerely,



Kent B. Alexander
Senior Vice President and General Counsel