



**Judiciary Committee
Introduction of Karen P. Tandy
Nominee: Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration
June 25, 2003, 2:00 pm, SD-215**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I am pleased to support the nomination of Ms. Karen P. Tandy to serve as the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration. Ms. Tandy is an exceptional nominee for this important position. It is also worth noting that, when confirmed, Ms. Tandy will be the first woman to ever fill the role as chief drug czar in the United States.

As a father of three young children, I am greatly disturbed by the rate of drug use by our nation's youth. The spread of drugs concerns parents across Virginia and the United States—in urban, rural and suburban areas. One of government's most fundamental responsibilities is to protect law-abiding citizens. We must build upon earlier successes and focus our efforts against one of the chief causes of violent crime in the, the scourge of illegal drugs. Our nation's crime and drug problems warrant an all-out effort on the federal, State and local level to prevent the devastating effects drugs have on our children and on our society.

Ms. Tandy is well qualified to serve as the chief drug enforcement officer in the United States. Ms. Tandy already has extensive experience with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, as well as with the National Drug Intelligence Center and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. Ms. Tandy currently serves as the Associate Deputy Attorney General and Director of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces. In her capacity as Associate Deputy Attorney General, she is responsible for oversight of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and National Drug Intelligence Center. As an advisor to the Deputy Attorney General and Attorney General on drugs, money laundering and forfeiture issues, Ms. Tandy is responsible for developing national drug enforcement policy and strategies.

Between 1990 and 1999, Ms. Tandy served in a variety of positions in the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, supervising the Department's drug and forfeiture litigation. Prior to 1990, Ms. Tandy was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of Virginia. While working in the Eastern District of Virginia, Ms. Tandy took a lead role in a three-year investigation that ultimately broke up a drug ring that had distributed 300 tons of marijuana and hashish valued at more than \$100 million. Ms. Tandy also served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Western District of Washington, handling the prosecution of violent crime and complex drug, money laundering and forfeiture cases.

965

Ms. Tandy, a native of Ft. Worth, Texas, is a graduate of Texas Tech University and a 1977 graduate of the Texas Tech Law School.

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, it is my sincere pleasure to speak on behalf of this exceptional nominee, and I recommend her swift approval by this Committee.