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Glen S. Lewy, President

January 18, 2021

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Chairperson  
Senate Committee on Homeland  
Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Homeland  
Security and Governmental Affairs  
724 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairperson Johnson and Ranking Member Peters:

In advance of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee confirmation hearings, we write to express the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) strong support for Alejandro Mayorkas to serve as Secretary of Homeland Security. We believe that Mr. Mayorkas is an outstanding choice to serve in this crucial domestic security position.

As a result of his many years of experience in directly relevant government positions, Mr. Mayorkas is extremely well-qualified to take on the enormous and complex challenges our country faces both with regard to our security and our civil rights and liberties. His past service to our country not only testifies to his commitment to public service, but also provides ample evidence of Mr. Mayorkas's expertise and his ability to execute, leading large organizations. That service also showcases his judgment, keen intellect and compassion. Crucially, Mr. Mayorkas has a deep understanding of the national security, rule of law, and civil rights and liberties implications of the role for which he has been nominated by President-Elect Biden.

Confirming an extremely qualified Secretary of Homeland Security is especially crucial in the wake of the domestic terrorist threat that has rocked our nation in recent years, including the deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol earlier this month. Of course, the Senate has a crucial role to play in raising important policy questions of all nominees. We certainly urge you to do everything in your power to facilitate such discussion, while also doing your best to ensure a reasonably swift process. This is the time, we hope, for bipartisan consensus and not for political posturing.

ADL professionals have had the privilege of working with Mr. Mayorkas for over a decade in his capacity as a senior government official ensuring the responsible and humane application of America's immigration laws and protecting the American homeland from all kinds of threats, whether foreign or domestic.

This includes my own personal experience working in government with Mr. Mayorkas. Moreover, my colleague, the Regional Director of ADL Los Angeles, has worked for over two decades with Mr. Mayorkas, both on the board of a nationally recognized legal services organization and in private practice. Throughout, Mr. Mayorkas has always shown high character and integrity, reverence for the U.S. Constitution, and a determination to protect all Americans, including vulnerable communities. When it comes to protecting houses of worship and our nation's borders, combating domestic extremism, addressing cyberhate, and ensuring the responsible application of our immigration laws, as well as fair treatment of immigrants and asylum seekers, Mr. Mayorkas has our trust.

At this time of such difficult challenges, we believe Mr. Mayorkas is a superb nominee for Secretary of Homeland Security. We have confidence he will serve our nation with distinction.

We urge the Committee to act promptly and favorably on this nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan A. Greenblatt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jonathan" being more prominent than the last name "Greenblatt".

Jonathan A. Greenblatt  
CEO and National Director