



**NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF  
BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVES**

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June 8, 2009

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
United States Senate  
433 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Sessions  
United States Senate  
335 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy and Sessions:

The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), an organization of approximately 3,000 primarily African American law enforcement CEOs and command level officials writes to express its support for President Barack Obama's nomination of US District Court Judge Sonya Sotomayor as Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court.

It is critically important to NOBLE, that a Supreme Court justice exercises the ability to interpret the Constitution in a manner that respects the fundamental rights of all people, and that is fair. Judge Sotomayor has credible service; her transition from local prosecutor, to US District Court judge, to US Appeals Court jurist has afforded her the opportunity to experience the breadth of criminal, civil and administrative law issues. The critical issues involving the dialectical contradictions of inequities and fairness across the spectrum of employment, education, housing, the status of juvenile offenders and the enforcement of law are of deep concern to us and are issues that we believe she will be sensitive to.

Furthermore, as the cases before the Court become more challenging, and with science and technology related issues advancing at such a rapid pace, we believe that Judge Sotomayor is imminently qualified to look at our 200 year-old Constitution in a manner that is relevant to today's world. It is interesting to note a recent White House Press Office statistic, "If confirmed, Sotomayor would bring more federal judicial experience to the Supreme Court than any justice in 100 years, and more overall judicial experience than anyone confirmed for the Court in the past 70 years".

Law enforcement is a profession that is constantly evolving and we believe that there is a seat among the top of that criminal justice system for this great American. We trust that the Senate will look at her character and act quickly on her confirmation.

Respectfully,

  
Joseph A. McMillan  
National President

Cc: U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee Members

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