

**U.S. Department of Justice**

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Honorable Mary Beth Buchanan
Director EOUSA
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mary Beth,

It was a pleasure speaking with you on Tuesday and you know that I have extended my retirement date until August 20th for a number of reasons including the fact that I want to make sure the White House and the Department of Justice has sufficient time to make the right selection of my successor. While I have a very strong recommendation to make, until I received the packet from Debbie Hardos telling me that it was indeed appropriate for me to write such a letter, I hesitated in doing so.

As I indicated to Kyle Sampson, it is critical that a qualified candidate from this office is selected, particularly in light of our sensitive ongoing investigations coupled with the community outreach programs we are engaged in. It would be virtually impossible to find a better candidate than my First Assistant Tony Jenkins. Tony has been a career prosecutor for over 20 years having served as both a state and federal prosecutor in Florida before coming to our office five years ago. During the interview process we learned of his reputation as an incredibly ethical can-do prosecutor who developed large cases through force of will and hard work. When I was first notified that the President had selected me to be United States Attorney, I immediately went to Tony and asked him to be part of my management team. He has served in virtually every attorney management position in this office and has excelled at all of them. Of particular note was his recent update of our Criminal Division Manual. I originally wrote this manual when I was Criminal Chief many years ago. Former U.S. Attorney Atkinson also had a hand in it and we were proud of our work. However, Tony's contributions, including changing it to an electronic desktop format, dwarfed our earlier efforts. When the EARS team arrived in April, they said it was the best Criminal Division manual they had ever seen and OLE plans on posting it on USABook as a model for other districts.

Mary Beth, I have been blessed with praise I have not deserved. The Rotary Clubs have selected me as their person of the year, and the building owner has named the office in honor of me. Any praise that has come my way has to be equally shared with my partner, Tony Jenkins. He embodies all of the leadership skills that we have spoken of at our U.S. Attorney National Conferences. He leads by example. He is most often the first in the office, and the last to leave. He is totally committed to our goals and always puts the mission first. He makes sure that this District follows all DOJ and EOUSA rules. The agents love him and their spirits are always buoyed when they learn that Tony Jenkins will be presenting their cases. Judge Thomas Moore, our St. Thomas federal judge, will sing his praises all day long. You may also want to consult with our colleague, Greg Miller, who knows Tony from their years as colleagues in the Northern District of Florida.

Our philosophical thinking is so close that I frequently tease him, telling him we are twin sons of different mothers. He is a natural born leader that will make the Department proud.

Sincerely,

David Marshall Nissman