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August 5, 2026

Dear

Thank you for contacting me about the nomination of Todd Blanche to serve as Attorney General (AG) of the United States. I appreciate hearing from you and having the opportunity to respond.

My approach to nominees for the position of U.S. Attorney General is the same for all presidential cabinet nominations. I carefully review their qualifications, meet personally with them when possible, and ask questions about their background, experience, and views on issues and responsibilities relevant to the position. This allows me to determine not only whether they are qualified but have the judgment, integrity, and independence necessary to faithfully execute the duties entrusted to them. It is especially imperative that the Attorney General uphold the rule of law, ensure equal justice under the law, and preserve the independence of the Department of Justice.

I have met with Mr. Blanche twice, in his capacity as Acting Attorney General and as the President's nominee to serve as Attorney General. During those meetings, I raised several issues that I have with actions taken by the Department of Justice while Mr. Blanche was either Deputy AG or Acting AG. These include my concerns regarding the Settlement Agreement in the lawsuit filed by President Trump, his sons, and The Trump Organization, LLC against the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of the Treasury; DOJ's handling of the release of the Epstein files under the Epstein Files Transparency Act and concerns from survivors about the lack of new criminal investigations; and Mr. Blanche's ability to exercise independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of Attorney General given his previous relationship as President Trump's personal attorney. These discussions have been substantive and are ongoing.

In July, Mr. Blanche traveled to Alaska to experience firsthand our unique law enforcement and public safety challenges. I appreciated his willingness to hear directly from Alaskans and take up my request to travel beyond the road system which I believe made an impression on him as it has with past Attorneys General who have visited our state. I also welcome recent settlements from the Department of Justice to resolve longstanding federal failures and shortcomings and improve Alaskans' quality of life. These actions would all be appropriate no matter who is Attorney General.

The Senate Judiciary Committee has not yet scheduled an Executive Business meeting to determine whether to report Mr. Blanche's nomination to be Attorney General to the full Senate for consideration. As the confirmation process moves forward, I will continue to evaluate his record, our discussions, and any commitments he has made regarding my concerns before making a final decision.

Again, thank you for contacting me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa Murkowski", written in a cursive style.

Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator
<http://murkowski.senate.gov>*