

**MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

January 19, 2018

The Honorable Chuck Grassley The Honorable Dianne Feinstein

Chairman Ranking Member

135 Hart SOB 331 Hart SOB

Washington, D.C. 20510 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein,

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs, representing the Nation’s largest metropolitan law enforcement agencies in the country, I am writing to voice our strong support of the DNA Cold Case Act of 2018 which would amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000. The proposed bill would provide law enforcement more financial backing to investigate and prosecute cold case crimes identified through DNA and rape kit backlogs.

The members of Congress have previously shown their recognition of the value of DNA technology by authorizing and appropriating more than $100 million per year in the last decade to the Department of Justice to reduce DNA backlogs and enhance crime laboratory capacity. This bill will assist in the funding for prosecution of crimes cleared through DNA.

Through this action, Congress will be bringing justice to the victims of crimes and to their families by giving prosecutors the tools they need to investigate, solve, and close cold cases. This in turn will bring those families closure after sometimes waiting decades for their loved ones’ murderers to be identified through DNA analysis as well as exonerate those who have been wrongfully convicted. We hope to see Congress push forward with this bill and ensure appropriate funding to law enforcement.

Sincerely,



 J. Thomas Manger

Chief of Police

Montgomery County Police Department

President, Major Cities Chiefs Association