



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

September 17, 2021

Albuquerque
Arlington TX
Atlanta
Aurora
Austin
Baltimore
Baltimore Co.
Boston
Buffalo
Charlotte-Mecklenburg
Chicago
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Columbus
Dallas
DeKalb Co.
Denver
Detroit
El Paso
Fairfax Co.
Fort Worth
Fresno
Honolulu
Houston
Indianapolis
Jacksonville
Kansas City
Las Vegas
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Los Angeles Co.
Louisville
Memphis
Mesa
Miami
Miami-Dade
Milwaukee
Minneapolis
Montgomery Co.
Nashville
Nassau Co.
New Orleans
New York City
Newark
Oakland
Oklahoma City
Omaha
Orlando
Philadelphia
Phoenix
Pittsburgh
Portland
Prince George's Co.
Raleigh
Sacramento
Salt Lake City
San Antonio
San Diego
San Francisco
San Jose
Seattle
St. Louis
St. Louis Co.
Suffolk Co.
Tampa
Tucson
Tulsa
Virginia Beach
Washington DC
Wichita

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

The Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA), a professional organization of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada, is proud to endorse President Biden's nomination of Dr. Rahul Gupta to serve as Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

Given the drug-related threats currently facing our communities, especially from fentanyl analogues, strong leadership at ONDCP will be critical. Dr. Gupta's many years of service as a practicing primary care physician and Health Commissioner of West Virginia will undoubtedly be an asset. He is familiar with the crucial role local law enforcement plays in addressing the supply of illegal drugs and understands the importance of programs like High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA). He is also well versed in the public health approaches to illicit drug use, such as harm reduction programs. The MCCA believes Dr. Gupta will draw on his experience to lead and help ONDCP advance comprehensive solutions that properly balance public safety and public health responses.

The MCCA is confident that Dr. Gupta will be a valued partner. In conversations with MCCA leadership, Dr. Gupta demonstrated his willingness to strengthen engagement between ONDCP and local law enforcement. He also underscored his belief that collaboration with stakeholders such as the MCCA is key to sound decision-making.

On behalf of the MCCA's membership, I respectfully request the Committee act swiftly and support the nomination of Dr. Rahul Gupta.

Sincerely,

Chief Art Acevedo
Chief, Miami Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Calgary, Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
Montreal, Québec
Ottawa, Ontario
Peel Region, Ontario
Toronto, Ontario
Vancouver, B.C.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
York Region, Ontario