

MICHAEL BAUMGARTNER
5TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

124 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4705
(202) 225-2006

528 E. SPOKANE
FALLS BLVD #115
SPOKANE, WA, 99202

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND WORKFORCE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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COLLEGE SPORTS CAUCUS,
CHAIRMAN

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4705

November 5, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: The Urgent Need to Confirm Mr. Pete Serrano as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern
District of Washington

Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

I write concerning the vacancy in the office of the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington and the pending nomination of Mr. Pete Serrano. Public safety is a paramount priority for the citizens I represent, and that safety relies on a fully empowered, Senate-confirmed U.S. Attorney to lead federal law enforcement efforts and partner with our state and local agencies.

Our communities face significant and rising threats from fentanyl traffickers and organized crime. A stable, permanent, and accountable partner in the U.S. Attorney's Office will enable our law enforcement partners to more effectively combat these challenges. This confirmation is a straightforward operational necessity to ensure this office is fully functional.

Mr. Serrano is qualified for this role. His background combines both federal and local legal experience through his service as an attorney for the U.S. Department of Energy and as Mayor of Pasco, Washington, where he has a proven record of increasing public safety.

Mr. Serrano is already on the job. His office has been aggressively and effectively prosecuting criminals poisoning our communities. I would draw the Committee's attention to Operation Rolling Thunder, a collaborative effort among law enforcement agencies and the USAO that resulted in the arrest of 55 fugitives, including those with warrants for homicide, sexual abuse of a child, and kidnapping. Mr. Serrano and the Eastern Washington U.S. Attorney's Office also participated in Operation Liberty Lake, targeting those tied to the sexual abuse and exploitation of children that resulted in 13 arrests.

This is exactly why we need Mr. Serrano confirmed. The safety and security of Eastern Washington are not partisan issues. My goal is simple: to ensure the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District is fully functional and led by a qualified, committed professional.

Mr. Serrano has the qualifications, the public's trust, and a proven record of effective management. I urge the Committee to advance his confirmation swiftly and promote public safety in Eastern Washington.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael Baumgartner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" and last name "Baumgartner" clearly legible.

Michael Baumgartner
Member of Congress

cc. Senator Lindsey Graham
 Senator John Cornyn
 Senator Mike Lee
 Senator Ted Cruz
 Senator Josh Hawley
 Senator Thom Tillis
 Senator John Kennedy
 Senator Marsha Blackburn
 Senator Eric Schmitt
 Senator Katie Britt
 Senator Ashley Moody
 Senator Sheldon Whitehouse
 Senator Amy Klobuchar
 Senator Chris Coons
 Senator Richard Blumenthal
 Senator Mazie Hirono
 Senator Cory Booker
 Senator Alex Padilla
 Senator Peter Welch
 Senator Adam Schiff