



Homeland
Security

June 28, 2013

Dear Colleagues,

Last night, President Obama announced his intention to nominate U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director (USCIS) Alejandro Mayorkas to be Deputy Secretary for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

As Director of USCIS for the past four years, Mayorkas has led the agency that oversees the largest immigration system in the world. He is responsible for enhancing USCIS' efforts to grant immigration and citizenship benefits to those deserving under the law, ensure the integrity of the immigration system, prevent fraud and protect national security, provide accurate and useful information to customers, and promote an awareness and understanding of the citizenship process. Director Mayorkas has also overseen USCIS' effort to implement the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, allowing certain individuals who were brought to the United States as children and who meet specific criteria, in line with the Department's enforcement priorities, the opportunity to be considered for deferred action.

Prior to serving as Director of USCIS, Mayorkas was a partner in the law firm of O'Melveny & Myers LLP. In 1998, President Clinton nominated him to be the U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California. In that role, he led an office of 240 Assistant U.S. Attorneys and oversaw the prosecution of cases of national as well as international significance. While serving as U.S. Attorney, he also served as the Vice-Chair of the Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittee on Civil Rights and as a member of the Subcommittee on Ethics in Government.

Director Mayorkas' experience and leadership will be invaluable as we continue the critical work of protecting this country from threats of all kinds. I congratulate him on his nomination as Deputy Secretary of this Department.

Until Director Mayorkas is confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Rand Beers will continue to serve as Acting Deputy Secretary. From the first day of this Administration, Acting Deputy Secretary Beers has been one of my most trusted advisors, and continues to provide invaluable counsel and guidance on a wide spectrum of homeland security issues, from counterterrorism efforts to cybersecurity.

On behalf of the men and women of DHS, I thank Alejandro and Rand both for their continued service and leadership to our Department as we work together to make our nation safer, more secure and more resilient.

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano
Secretary