



April 10, 2017

The Hon. John Coghill, Chairman  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
State Capitol, Rm. 119  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Chairman Coghill:

The Alaska Federation of Natives writes to request the Senate Judiciary Committee resume its review of Jahna Lindemuth's qualifications to serve as the Attorney General of the Department of Law.

AFN is the largest state wide Native organization in Alaska. Our membership includes 12 for-profit regional corporations, 12 regional not-for-profit organizations, 152 village for-profit corporations and 152 Indian tribes. Our mission, among other things, is to advance and enhance the voice of the Native community on issues of mutual concern including critical state appointments.

AFN came to know Ms. Lindemuth two years ago when her previous firm announced it would partner with the Alaska Innocence Project and the Office of Public Advocacy *pro bono* to present new evidence in state's case against the 'Fairbanks Four.' Upwards of 50 Dorsey Whitney, LLP attorneys, paralegals and support staff logged 5,500 hours on the case over 10-months; however, Ms. Lindemuth was the firm's principal representative. Her superior legal skills and abilities helped secure the immediate and unconditional release of four young, Alaska Native men, who were wrongly imprisoned for almost 20 years.

Ms. Lindemuth has proven herself to be an exceptional chief legal advisor to the government of the State of Alaska and the governor over the past six months. She listens well; is orally articulate; possesses good written communication skills; and draws reasonable, conclusions. Moreover, she has established a trusting relationship with the Alaska Native community.

Please move Ms. Lindemuth's appointment out of the Senate Judiciary Committee to a joint session of the House and Senate for further consideration.

Thank you for all you do on behalf of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka  
President

Cc: Senators Costello, Meyer, Kelly, Wielechowski