

September 12, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

We are writing to you to request your immediate assistance and support in confirming Charles "Cully" D. Stimson to be the General Counsel to the Department of the Navy. As former Secretaries of the Navy, we know all too well how important it was to have a Senate-confirmed General Counsel by our side, and we urge you to bring his name up for a vote this month. He has our strongest possible support.

Each of us is familiar with Mr. Stimson, either through our direct work with him in the Defense Department, in the private sector, or otherwise. He is uniquely qualified for this position, having served over 25 years in the Navy as an attorney, as an Assistant United States Attorney, a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, as a Senior Legal Fellow at The Heritage Foundation, and his vast business experience. He has deep ties to the Navy and Marine Corps team, and its legal community.

Moreover, he is a family man, a father of four, honest and fair, hard-working, and thoughtful. He is devoted to the rule of law, and is a practical problem solver.

The Department of the Navy has immense challenges. We know, as former Navy Secretaries, that having a sage, experienced, Senate-confirmed General Counsel is invaluable in leading the Department. And we are confident that Mr. Stimson is the right man for the job.

We ask that you bring Mr. Stimson up for a vote as soon as possible, so that he can serve the Department with honor and distinction---like he has for decades---and help navigate the waters ahead.

Your assistance in confirming Mr. Stimson as soon as possible is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Gordon R. England
72nd and 73rd Secretary of the Navy
28th Deputy Secretary of Defense

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Donald C. Winter". The signature is cursive and somewhat compact.

Donald C. Winter
74th Secretary of the Navy

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. William Middendorf". The signature is cursive and clearly legible.

J. William Middendorf
62nd Secretary of the Navy