

November 16, 2020

The Hon. Roy Blunt  
Chairman, Committee on Rules and Administration  
United States Senate

The Hon. Amy Klobuchar  
Ranking Member, Committee on Rules and Administration  
United States Senate

Cc: Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer

Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Klobuchar:

The Federal Election Commission (“FEC”) has not had a quorum of Commissioners since July 3. The FEC is thus unable to take official action on any matter pending before the agency. The undersigned are lawyers who represent organizations and candidates regulated by federal campaign finance law. On January 6 of this year, many of us wrote to urge the Administration and Senate to “work together and immediately identify, nominate, and confirm a full slate of qualified individuals to serve as Commissioners” of the FEC. Three nominations have now been submitted to restore the FEC’s quorum, and we urge the Committee and the Senate to act swiftly on these nominations, especially that of Allen Dickerson.

We are Democrats, Republicans, independents and non-partisans. We meet monthly to discuss current legal issues in campaign finance law and developments in public advocacy. These non-partisan discussions help candidates, news media, government officials, and other Americans navigate difficult and complex federal laws.

We represent diverse organizations, interests and views spanning the political spectrum – non-partisan, left, right, and center. We may find ourselves in adversarial positions in the legal arena. Yet we are united in our commitment to the rule of law and the need for the agency tasked with regulating federal campaign finance laws to function fully and carry out the mission assigned to it by Congress. Today we write as individuals to urge the Senate to move quickly to restore the FEC’s ability to function.

We particularly write in support of the nomination of Allen Dickerson to the FEC. Allen Dickerson has been an active, knowledgeable participant in our discussions of complicated campaign finance, constitutional, and legal questions. We have worked with him or observed his work and character over the years and believe that he is especially well-qualified for the position. He listens to perspectives from all sides, responds courteously and thoughtfully to differing views, and provides his own views clearly and objectively. He has added valuable information and advice on many occasions, and leads some discussions on legal and constitutional questions. We believe those qualities will be helpful on the FEC.

We urge the Committee and the Senate to act swiftly to confirm Allen Dickerson as a Commissioner of the FEC.

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