AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

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April 21, 2020

Honorable William P. Barr Attorney General Office of the Attorney General, United States Department of Justice (DOJ) 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

The COVID-19 crisis engulfing the Nation has called for sacrifices by many federal employees. At the Department of Justice (DOJ), large numbers of front-line employees, including those at the Bureau of Prisons (BoP) and other law enforcement agencies, are carrying out their duties in close contact with those suffering from the effects of COVID-19. Because of their heroic efforts, too many of these DOJ employees have fallen ill with the COVID-19 virus, and some have even died.

Therefore, we request that in recognition of the ultimate sacrifice made by DOJ employees, including those at the BoP among others, who while serving their Country, have died as a result of COVID-19 infection, that you as Attorney General, utilize your authority under the Civilian Service Recognition Act of 2011, Pub. L. 112-73, to present a United States flag to the beneficiary of the deceased as a way to formally express sympathy and gratitude on behalf of the Nation.

The current crisis has highlighted the work and severe sacrifices made by so many federal employees. It is only fitting that those who have fallen as a result of their dedication to duty be recognized accordingly.

Sincerely,

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Everett B. Kelley AFGE National President