## MEDIA CONTACT



Diane Gibes, Marketing Manager dgibes@swlaw.com | 702.784.5370

## SNELL & WILMER PARTNER GREG BROWER JOINS OTHER FORMER SENIOR FEDERAL OFFICIALS IN URGING U.S. SENATE TO CAREFULLY EXAMINE PROPOSED SENTENCING REFORMS

LAS VEGAS (May 20, 2014) – <u>Snell & Wilmer</u> partner <u>Greg Brower</u> joined more than two dozen other former senior federal law enforcement officials in urging U.S. Senate Leadership to proceed with caution in considering a sentencing reform proposal now pending before Congress.

The group, led by former U.S. Attorneys General Michael Mukasey and William Barr, expressed its concern that the Smarter Sentencing Act of 2014 (S.1410) would dramatically reduce sentences for serious drug trafficking offenses, thus having a potentially adverse impact on public safety.

"We believe that the American people will be ill-served by the significant reduction of sentences for federal drug trafficking crimes that involve the sale and distribution of dangerous drugs like heroin, methamphetamine, and PCP," reads the letter. "We are aware of little public support for lowering the minimum required sentences for these extremely dangerous and sometimes lethal drugs."

Brower, who previously served as Nevada's chief federal prosecutor, warned that "many of the offenders who would benefit from the proposed legislation are not 'low-level' or 'nonviolent."

"Moreover, according to the U.S. Sentencing Commission, in FY2012, nearly 60 percent of heroin traffickers, more than 65 percent of marijuana traffickers, and nearly two-thirds of methamphetamine traffickers convicted of a drug offense potentially carrying a mandatory minimum were not subjected to a mandatory minimum because of judicial discretion built into the current law," said Brower.

In addition to having served as U.S. Attorney for the District of Nevada, Brower also previously served as an attorney at U.S. Department of Justice headquarters in Washington, D.C. where he worked on a wide range of policy matters, including issues involving the federal sentencing guidelines. As a partner in Snell & Wilmer's Las Vegas and Reno offices, Brower practices in the areas of complex civil and white collar criminal litigation, as well as corporate investigations and administrative law. His 20 years of practice includes significant experience as a "first chair" trial and appellate advocate. In addition, he serves in the Nevada Senate where he is the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee.

## **About Snell & Wilmer**

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