

NEWS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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## FBI DIRECTOR NOMINATION

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole today issued the following statement regarding President Clinton's appointment of Judge Louis Freeh to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

In the wake of the unprecedented dismissal yesterday of an FBI Director appointed to a ten-year term, we must now look ahead to the confirmation of his successor.

President Clinton today announced his selection to head the FBI, U.S. District Court Judge Louis Freeh. While I do not know Judge Freeh, I look forward to examining his record, his experience and his views on criminal justice. At first glance, his credentials appear impressive. I was particularly pleased to hear Judge Freeh this morning mention his commitment to the political independence of the FBI.

I understand the Administration would like to complete Judge Freeh's confirmation before the August recess, and certainly I share the Administration's interest in restoring leadership to the Bureau in a timely manner. It is this Senator's intent to cooperate with the Administration towards that goal, consistent with the Senate's responsibilities to thoroughly consider this appointment.