



February 1, 2021

President Joe Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

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Jay A. Gershen, DDS, PhD

Dear President Biden,

On behalf of the Research!America alliance, thank you for appointing Dr. Janet Woodcock to serve as Acting Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. Woodcock is extremely well qualified to lead the FDA at this critical moment in our nation’s history. She has earned and commands extraordinary respect and trust for her expertise, discernment, integrity, and commitment to advancing the public health.

These very characteristics, coupled with her more than 30 years of leadership and field experience at FDA, support your choice of Dr. Woodcock to serve as Acting Commissioner. Further, should you nominate Dr. Woodcock for the Commissioner position, our nation will be exceptionally well served. Dr. Woodcock has played a pivotal role in the COVID-19 response, not only at FDA, but as a crucial member of the Operation Warp Speed team tasked with rapid pace development of safe and efficacious COVID-19 vaccines.

From her deep wealth of regulatory expertise, to her exemplary record of service as a leader at FDA to her on-the-ground experience bringing about rapid pace interventions against the pandemic, Dr. Woodcock is the right individual to take the helm at FDA now.

Thank you again, Mr. President, for placing the leadership of FDA in such capable hands. We stand ready to assist in any way that may be useful as FDA and other research and public health agencies work around the clock to defeat COVID-19 while fulfilling their many other crucial responsibilities.

Sincerely,

Mary Woolley
President and CEO
Research!America

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