

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20511

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**STATEMENT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ON  
THE CONFIRMATION OF LEON PANETTA AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**

On behalf of the entire Intelligence Community, I want to congratulate Leon Panetta on his Senate confirmation to be the next Secretary of Defense.

Leon is a selfless American who has been an outstanding leader and partner in the Intelligence Community. He is a great colleague and friend whose years of dedicated public service and wisdom have been invaluable to me.

Most importantly, Leon has been a staunch advocate for the dedicated men and women of the CIA, ensuring they have the resources they need to perform their critical mission – protecting our homeland.

I congratulate Leon and his family and look forward to continuing our collaboration and close partnership.

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