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For Immediate Release

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O'RIELLY
ON JANE HALPRIN AS ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**

WASHINGTON, December 6, 2018. I appreciate Jane Halprin's willingness to take on the ALJ tasks. Her skills and background will be needed to resolve pending cases very quickly and set the office on an improved course. The ALJ process has been allowed to turn into a black hole of indecision, inefficiency, and arbitrariness. It is not worthy of our great nation.

Accordingly, this is the perfect moment to overhaul the ALJ functions and enact needed reforms, including a determination of whether they are still needed. I will seek that the Chairman do just that: initiate a proceeding to fix the broken ALJ process. The first priority must be setting a framework with timelines for all decisions and aspects of the office's work.

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