

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Richard Celeste

Date: Feb 21, 2006

Subject: Respectfully urge support for Subodh Chandra

I am using this technology in an effort to share my strong support for Subodh Chandra who is, as you know, seeking to bring the Attorney General's office back into the Democratic column.

While I am a long way from Ohio, I still care deeply about what happens there. Five of my children, six of my grandchildren, Dagmar, Ted and Bobbie all live in Ohio. So I feel that I have a big stake—albeit an indirect one—in the outcome of this year's statewide election.

Ted Strickland will be a strong and I believe the successful candidate for Governor. He will need an equally strong Attorney General. I know how helpful it was for me to have Tony Celebrezze in that office as part of a Democratic leadership team.

I have known Subodh Chandra for almost two decades. I met him when he was a student at Stanford. I was so impressed with him that I persuaded him to come to Ohio to work with Participation 2000. He helped select, train and place young and enthusiastic campaign workers in Democratic races that had been targeted to take out Republican incumbents. I saw at first hand that Subodh is not only unusually bright but also extraordinarily hard working.

Subodh has a knack for balancing his energy and determination with a keen sense of humor. Above all, he is profoundly devoted to the highest ethical standards.

Subodh left Ohio to go to law school where he was among the best in his class. Early in his law practice, he realized that he was committed to practicing law in the public interest. He did that with distinction as a Federal prosecutor. He did that again with equal distinction as the youngest Law Director in the history of the city of Cleveland.

I know Mark Dann, and I appreciate his desire to take his service for the people of Ohio to another level. I also want to acknowledge that Mark helped me in more than one political campaign.

But we are called upon, especially at this rare moment when we can turn Ohio's government back to the people, to put our very strongest candidates forward. I am convinced that by virtually any measure Subodh Chandra is our strongest choice. He is a brilliant lawyer. He knows how to run a "public interest law firm." He can take the ethics issue to Betty Montgomery and her cronies. He will raise new money for his campaign and the ticket. I predict that he will win major newspaper endorsements over Montgomery.

And if you have heard him speak, you know he can more than hold his own in any forum.

Some have said that he doesn't have a "winning name." That is what they said about Mike DiSalle. Some said the same about me. Believe me, Chandra will become an Ohio name over the course of the next few months—and Subodh will make every one of us proud.

I hope you will do what you can to persuade your Democratic colleagues to endorse Subodh.

With best wishes for a great Democratic victory in November,

Dick
