

Petersen, Ingersoll Called Likely Replacement for Gray

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Two prominent Justice Department attorneys were described last night as the most likely replacements for L. Patrick Gray.

Justice Department sources said that the candidate list for director of the FBI was headed by Assistant Attorney General Henry E. Petersen, head of the department's criminal division, and by John E. Ingersoll, director of the department's Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs.

These sources also confirmed that Nixon administration officials had sounded out Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman James Eastland (D-Miss.) and Senate Majority Whip Robert

Byrd (D-W.Va.) to see if the two men would be acceptable nominees.

Petersen was described as being particularly attractive to the Nixon administration as a prospective nominee because of a record of opposing organized crime and because he is registered Democrat. Unlike Gray, who campaigned for the President in the 1972 elections, Petersen has not been active in partisan politics.

However, he has been in overall charge of the Justice Department's Watergate investigation and could run into some of the problems Gray encountered.

Both Petersen and Ingersoll are considered tough-minded law enforcement officials, but both have taken

positions that differ from current Nixon administration stands.

Petersen, in the course of representing the administration's opposition to a moratorium on capital punishment, told a House committee last year that, "I find the taking of human life abhorrent."

And Ingersoll told a group of police officials in 1970 that "our belief in the efficacy of severe penalty provisions (for drug offenders) has not been borne out."

District of Columbia Police Chief Jerry Wilson has been mentioned in some speculation as a successor, but Justice Department sources said he would not be named.