



**5/10/22 Statement from Bobbin Singh, Executive Director, OJRC on his resignation from the Chief Justice’s Criminal Justice Advisory Committee:**

“District Attorney Clarkson chose to vilify and demonize public defenders and those with criminal records. The bigotry and narrow mindedness articulated by DA Clarkson's rhetoric is unacceptable. It is hostile to my values and the values of the OJRC, and allowing her to remain on the CJAC without consequences affirms that it is acceptable for a public official who is entrusted with the life and liberty of Oregonians to hold such a value system. DA Clarkson has chosen to scare her community by attempting to persuade them to believe the worst about people; she uses the lowest common denominator in our conversation about community wellbeing: fear and anger. This cannot be okay. We must reject these values and those who espouse them.

I requested to the Chief Justice that DA Clarkson be removed from the CJAC for her actions. The values DA Clarkson expressed are in direct contradiction to the stated mandate of the CJAC. Because the Chief Justice, at this time, will not remove DA Clarkson, I have offered my resignation from the CJAC to be effective 5/12/22. I cannot participate in a statewide committee with DA Clarkson on it; I will not legitimize her with my participation on this important committee.

We are witnessing the erosion of rights and liberties because we allow DAs like Clarkson to shift the norms of what is acceptable towards intolerance and a limited view of who is deserving of dignity. It is vital that those who participate in statewide committees such as the CJAC offer a vision of what can be and inspire by imagining what the world could look like through the lens of compassion; members of the CJAC and these important statewide committees must recognize the humanity and dignity in every Oregonian.”