



August 27, 2021

Via U.S. Mail and Electronic Transmission

Merrick Garland, Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Via E-Mail

Monty Wilkinson, Director
Executive Office for United States Attorneys
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 2242
Washington, DC 20530

Via U.S. Mail

Dana Remus
White House Counsel to United States President Joe Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Letter of Support for Black United States Attorney Candidates and Nominees

Dear Attorney General Garland, Mr. Wilkinson, and Ms. Remus,

On behalf of the Department of Justice Association of Black Attorneys (DOJABA), the Department's oldest employee-resource group, we write to express our strong support for consideration of a broadly diverse cohort of candidates¹ and nominees² to the office of United States Attorney. These appointments are important to fulfill the commitment to fair representation and diversity and inclusion at all levels of the Department.

DOJABA's mission and history, as well as the organization's longstanding work with diverse career prosecutors, make DOJABA uniquely qualified to support consideration of Black United States Attorney candidates and nominees, including the following individuals:

¹ Candidates are prospective nominees.

² Nominees are individuals formally nominated by President Biden for civilian positions requiring Senate confirmation.

Acosta, Winifred	U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Florida	Candidate
Barron, Ereik	U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland	Nominee
Brown, Nicholas	U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Washington	Nominee
Davis, Vicki	U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama	Candidate
Diggs, Damien	U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas	Candidate
Gathe, Ronald	U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Louisiana	Candidate
Harris, Stacie	U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Florida	Candidate
Johnson, Clifford	U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana	Nominee
Lapointe, Markenzy	U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida	Candidate
Myers, Zachary	U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana	Nominee
Peace, Breon	U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York	Nominee
Ross, Trini	U.S. Attorney for the Western District of New York	Nominee
Rollins, Rachael	U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts	Nominee
Williams, Damian	U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York	Nominee
Williams-Maynard, Suntrease	U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama	Candidate
Winfield, Jennifer	U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri	Candidate

Collectively, the above-listed candidates and nominees have provided over 15 decades of exceptional service to the Department, and their responsibilities span the work of the Department. They include directly supervising investigations and prosecutions of national importance, handling politically sensitive cases, litigating complex jury trials, developing and implementing department-wide initiatives, and performing effectively in multi-cultural environments. They are more than qualified, and their experiences demonstrate that they possess the legal acumen, integrity, and dedication necessary to represent the United States with professionalism and impartiality.

DOJABA has a long history of advocating for fair representation of Black attorneys and staff in leadership and “feeder” positions to promote a Department that reflects the diversity of the American people. Racial diversity among the Department’s leadership ranks is indispensable to a robust and cohesive workforce, necessary to the perception of institutional legitimacy, and essential to the development and implementation of equitable policies to address the diverse communities that we serve.

The above candidates and nominees are broadly respected by their colleagues for their integrity and have demonstrated excellence as lawyers. Each is well-positioned to lead the Department in the vigorous and fair administration of justice, whether related to civil rights, national security, public integrity, antitrust, crime, or other critical issues. Their litigation and advocacy experiences, records of success, and leadership qualities demonstrate that they are excellent choices to aid in leading the Department. Appointing Black United States Attorneys at this critical juncture in the history of the Department will signal a sincere commitment to diversity and inclusion.

The candidates and nominees inspire DOJABA members, and other colleagues at the Department, to accomplish great things. We look forward to supporting them as they safeguard the integrity and trust of the Department as United States Attorneys.

Thank you for considering DOJABA's views. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact DOJABA Chair, Oneshia Herring (oneshia.herring@usdoj.gov). To learn more about DOJABA, visit us at www.dojaba.org.

Respectfully,

Executive Council for DOJ Association of Black Attorneys

By:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Oneshia Herring", written in a cursive style.

Oneshia Herring, Chair