



**ASIAN AMERICAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS**

September 8, 2021

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Letter of Support for Rachael Rollins  
U.S. Attorney Nominee for the District of Massachusetts**

Dear Chairman Durbin, Ranking Member Grassley, Majority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McConnell:

We write as the Asian American Lawyers Association of Massachusetts (“AALAM”) to express the organization’s full and enthusiastic support of the nomination of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins to be the next U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts.

Since 1984, AALAM has devoted its energy and resources to serving the Asian American legal community and improving and facilitating the administration of law and justice. AALAM serves as a professional and social network for its members, who practice in all sectors of the legal profession. Its membership includes approximately 250 lawyers, judges, law professors, and law students in Massachusetts.

DA Rollins has been a long-time friend to and supporter of AALAM, from the days when she served as President of the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association (“MBLA”) to the present in her role as District Attorney. Based upon her extensive legal career and achievements, there is no question that DA Rollins will be an effective U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts from day one.

We endorse DA Rollins not only because she has been a forceful ally of AALAM and the Asian American Pacific Islander (“AAPI”) community. Her appointment would ensure safety and justice

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in the Commonwealth because she understands the diversity of the AAPI community and its needs. The U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts not only represents the U.S. Department of Justice on all federal legal matters within the District, but also engages local communities on issues such as civil rights, violence prevention, and drug addiction.

DA Rollins has long worked with AALAM and the AAPI community on these and other issues, especially as we reflected on Black Lives Matter and pandemic-induced anti-AAPI sentiment. At a March 2020 event with state and local leaders at the Massachusetts State House, hers was a passionate and blunt voice, decrying pandemic-spurred violence against those within the AAPI community and affirming her office's commitment to prosecuting hate crimes targeting the AAPI community. In October 2020, DA Rollins was an integral part of AALAM-sponsored discussions delving into the shared and the divergent experiences of AAPI and Black communities, with a focus on the criminal justice system. In March 2021, in the aftermath of the murders of eight individuals, including six Asian American women, in Georgia, she affirmed her commitment to the safety and protection of the community by participating in a town hall organized by a diverse coalition of AAPI organizations. DA Rollins also issued a statement affirming her office's commitment to protect victims of crimes fueled by bias based on race, ethnicity, nation of origin, gender identity, ability, orientation, religion, or any other protected status. In May 2021, as part of events for AAPI Heritage Month, DA Rollins participated in a roundtable discussion exploring the history of anti-Asian hate crimes. She explained what constitutes a hate crime and identified resources in her office for local communities. Throughout her time as District Attorney and through these engagements with the AAPI community, DA Rollins has shown a commitment to listening and understanding the needs of our community.

Placed in context, DA Rollins' confirmation would be truly historic as she would be the first Black woman United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. Her confirmation would also place in the Office an attorney whose career reflects a commitment to public service, engagement with the community, and service of justice.

We urge you to bring her nomination to the full Senate and to confirm her promptly. Should you have any questions, we are available to answer them. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. S. Choy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "E" and last name "Choy" being more prominent than the middle initial "S".

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