



# NAACP

**Derrick Johnson**  
*President and  
Chief Executive Officer*

**Leon W. Russell**  
*Chairman  
National Board of Directors*

September 2, 2021

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee  
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: NOMINATION OF RACHAEL ROLLINS TO US ATTORNEY-DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the NAACP, our nation's oldest, largest, and most widely recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization, I write to express our strong support for the nomination of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins for the position of United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts.

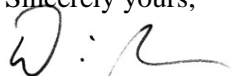
DA Rollins is an extraordinary candidate who is known and respected for her bold and unbridled voice in speaking to the legacy and taint of racism in our criminal justice system. NAACP leaders have had the opportunity to work alongside her and have witnessed the integrity with which she leads and carries out her commitment, particularly as it pertains to her vision for the criminal justice system and her initial pledge regarding the low-level, non-violent offenses in the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop.

DA Rollins has held true to her word in fighting for a criminal justice system that works equally for everyone. Offenses driven by poverty, mental illness, and substance use disorders are approached with the goal of treatment and diversion rather than incarceration, while prosecution resources are focused on serious offenders. Her leadership has been courageous and towards improving individual outcomes and the overall safety and quality of life for her communities. DA Rollins has been bold and unapologetic in her stance for a criminal justice system that better serves the victims and survivors who turn to her office for help. Under her leadership, the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office has conducted itself with the highest level of transparency, openness, and equal accountability to those served; while working collaboratively and in partnership with law enforcement, social service providers, local officials, and the legislature to progress the work and mission of the office.

In conclusion, DA Rollins is the first woman ever elected as District Attorney in Suffolk County and the first woman of color ever elected District Attorney in Massachusetts. Since she took office and among other brave, unprecedented initiatives, DA Rollins created an Integrity Review Bureau and already over 240 years of wrongful convictions have been overturned by the bureau. The NAACP supports and applauds President Biden's nomination of DA Rollins as the state's top federal prosecutor.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Hilary Shelton, Director of the Washington Bureau and Senior Vice President for Policy and Advocacy, at his office at (202) 463-2940.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Johnson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Derrick Johnson  
President and CEO

cc: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee