

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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August 24, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Richard J. Durbin Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

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

Re: Nomination of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins for United States
Attorney for the District of Massachusetts

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

I am writing in support of the nomination of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins for the position of United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts.

District Attorney Rollins, first and foremost, has the requisite experience for this position - having served as both District Attorney of Suffolk County as well as Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. She also has held positions in private practice and government service where she engaged in and led complex civil litigation.

Beyond her legal experience, she brings a valuable perspective and commitment to reforming a criminal justice system that has failed far too many. For generations, our criminal justice system has been plagued by an overwhelming focus on incarceration and punishment to the exclusion of treatment and rehabilitation, even for minor offenses. This has caused the tragic, unacceptable over-incarceration of Black and brown Americans and perpetuated a distrust and fear of law enforcement in communities of color across our country.

We need to ensure continued reform of the criminal justice system. To do that, we must address underlying structures and policies.

Rachael Rollins was elected as District Attorney with a mandate to change this system. As District Attorney, Rachael Rollins repeatedly demonstrated her willingness to challenge the status quo in our justice system and to address systemic inequities that exist. I have no doubt that she will continue to bring this commitment to this important federal role.

Notably, if confirmed, Rachael Rollins would be the first Black woman to serve as U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts, just as she was the first Black woman to be elected as a District Attorney in Massachusetts.

I respectfully ask the Judiciary Committee to favorably advance her nomination, and for the Senate to confirm her as United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Maura Healey

Massachusetts Attorney General