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September 21, 2021

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

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

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

On behalf of the Berkshire District Attorney's Office, I am pleased to support the nomination of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael S. Rollins to serve as the U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts.

I am the current District Attorney from Berkshire County, Massachusetts, and its 32 diverse cities and towns. In my official capacities, I am charged with enforcing the law and seeking fair and equitable justice for those who have suffered harm, especially the most vulnerable people in our community.

I met Rachael Rollins while we were both running for our respective current positions and we have spent considerable time together for close to three years as members of the national criminal justice reform nonprofit "Fair and Just Prosecution;" as colleagues on the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association; and as allies in the work of reforming our local justice systems.

I very strongly believe that Rachael is one of those leaders who comes along once in a lifetime. Her positive impact on justice reform for the people of Massachusetts and as a national leader cannot be overstated.

Rachael's vision for the justice system is transformative. She has both the intellect and experience but, more importantly, a spine of steel to make that vision a reality. Rachael and I are both part of a movement of elected District Attorneys leading reform at the local level. We were elected by a growing grassroots movement that demands a justice system that upholds the rule of law, dismantles systemic racism in law enforcement, prioritizes justice for victims of violent crime, and offers public health solutions to gender-based violence, mental illness, and substance use disorder. In effect, an increasing number of people across the Commonwealth and the nation are desperate for justice that works for the people and not for the powerful.

Local elected prosecutors cannot do this work on their own. We very much need the support of our federal partners. As a justice reformer and local elected district attorney, Rachael is uniquely situated to be a leader in the new administration at providing a new vision for justice that supports the work of local elected officials like me.

This committee has a historic opportunity to support a candidate for U.S. Attorney that will make major contributions to justice reform that will impact generations to come. I state unequivocally that District Attorney Rollins will provide that leadership.

I respectfully urge the Judiciary Committee to swiftly and favorably advance D.A. Rollins' nomination, and for the Senate to ultimately confirm her as U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

Andrea Harrington

Berkshire District Attorney

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