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Over 60 AGs and Elected Prosecutors Condemn Attack on Capitol as Assault on Democracy Leaders call for President Trump and others to be held accountable

Following Wednesday's attacks on the nation's Capitol by armed insurrectionists, today over 60 elected prosecutors from around the nation issued a joint statement condemning President Trump's incitement of violence and attempts to undermine the results of a fair and free election. The statement calls for accountability for anyone who incited or was involved in the attack as well as all who failed to adequately prepare for or appropriately respond to it. The statement underscores the damage done by eroding faith in our nation's democratic processes, and also urges all elected leaders to immediately accept the results of the 2020 election.

"The assault we saw on the Capitol this week was the culmination of four years of a relentless narrative that has perpetuated untruths and attacks on the rule of law and our democratic norms and institutions," said **Miriam Krinsky, Executive Director of Fair and Just Prosecution**, the organizer of the statement. "The president's repeated efforts to impede and ignore the will of the people is an imminent threat to public safety and to the future of our Republic. Elected prosecutors have a duty to promote justice and therefore a responsibility to speak out in the face of this brazen and dangerous erosion of the very foundation of our government."

The statement calls for President Trump and all other elected leaders to "denounce these attacks and those who participated in them in no uncertain terms, to cease perpetuating mistruths that are fanning distrust and division in our nation, and to accept the results of the 2020 election." The statement also contrasts how many law enforcement agencies responded over the past year to overwhelmingly peaceful protests for racial equity across the country with mass arrests, force and militarization, with how some police appeared to stand aside for a crowd of predominantly white insurgents. The leaders call for systemic transformation and an independent Justice Department to restore integrity to the federal government.

"The attempted overthrow of the results of a fair and free election has no place on our shores and is an assault on the very core of what it means to be the United States of America. President Trump must be held accountable for inciting this riot and attacking our democracy," said **Ellen Rosenblum, Attorney General of Oregon**. "Our nation has already lost far too many and far too much over the last year. Now is a time for healing and rebuilding, not fanning flames of distrust and violence."

The signatories also point to the inextricable connection between trust in the justice system and public safety: "President Trump and his supporters have repeatedly incited violence and

perpetuated conspiracy theories with devastating consequences. Public trust is at the heart of public safety, yet trust in government and our legal system has plummeted in the last four years. Words matter. And false narratives of a stolen election and efforts to disenfranchise countless Americans by ignoring their votes are attacks on our democracy and law and order, threatening the very wellbeing of our country."

"Every attack on democracy and the rule of law is an attack on the ability of elected prosecutors to keep our communities safe. When leaders recklessly question the legitimacy of a fair election, they threaten public safety. That is unacceptable. We are a nation of laws founded on the principle of orderly transitions of power, not shows of force," said **Mimi Rocah**, the **District Attorney of Westchester County, New York**.

Read the full statement and see the list of signatories here.

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Fair and Just Prosecution is a national network of elected prosecutors working towards common-sense, compassionate criminal justice reforms. To learn more about FJP's work, visit our <u>website</u> and follow us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.