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FJP Statement on Confirmation of Alejandro Mayorkas as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security

[Fair and Just Prosecution](#) Executive Director Miriam Krinsky issued the following statement in response to today's confirmation of Alejandro Mayorkas as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security:

“Over the past four years, our country was subjected to cruel immigration policies rooted in bigotry and xenophobia. The human toll of those directives is incalculable – and it departs from the essence of our country’s proclaimed tradition of welcoming others in need of refuge to our shores. We applaud the many steps the Biden Administration had already taken to undo that harm, but much more work remains to create a truly fair and just immigration system.

Alejandro Mayorkas’ confirmation represents another welcome shift from the last administration’s starting point. An immigrant himself, Mayorkas has the opportunity to bring bold leadership, compassion and sensible policies to the Department of Homeland Security. And as an immigrant myself, and someone who has known and worked with Ali Mayorkas from our work together as federal prosecutors over 30 years ago, I hope and expect that he will implement a new vision for our nation’s immigration system: one in which no one is caged for seeking safety, freedom and the American dream.

Elected prosecutors across the United States have repeatedly stressed in [amicus briefs](#) and joint [letters](#) that rebuilding trust between immigrant communities and law enforcement is integral to promoting public safety and essential to the welfare of every community in our country. We hope this confirmation is the beginning of a new era in which American immigration policy will live up to the aspirations of our American values.”

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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 [website](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).