

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **FJP Statement on PA Commonwealth Court Opinion in Larry Krasner Impeachment Case**

[Fair and Just Prosecution](#) Executive Director Miriam Krinsky issued the following statement in response to [the opinion](#) issued today by Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court Judge Ellen Ceisler in the lawsuit filed by Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner asking that the impeachment proceedings against him be declared unlawful:

“We applaud the Court’s recognition that the Pennsylvania House’s impeachment of Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner failed to meet the legal standard required for removal from office. This effort to oust a twice-elected official from office is nothing more than a politically-motivated attempt to override the will of the people of Philadelphia and usurp the autonomy of the duly elected DA. As Judge Ceisler noted, the ‘District Attorney, as Philadelphia’s chief law enforcement officer, has broad discretion regarding his policy decisions and prosecution choices.’

Impeachment is an important tool created as a last resort to address serious ‘misbehavior in office’ – not to allow politicians to supplant the outcome of local elections simply because they disagree with the voters’ decisions. If the legislators who supported impeachment actually cared about the safety of Philadelphia’s residents, they would have been working to pass bills to get guns off the streets and invest in communities, instead of wasting time and taxpayer dollars to wage a partisan battle.

In fact, if the impeachment trial were allowed to proceed, it would actually make communities less safe by undermining the legitimacy of democracy and the rule of law. That’s why a bipartisan group of 88 criminal justice leaders from across the country – including current and former elected prosecutors and law enforcement leaders – [denounced](#) the impeachment and urged the PA Senate to keep DA Krasner in office.

We know that this decision is not the end of litigation in this case and we will continue to stand with DA Krasner as he fights to carry out the vision for justice that his constituents overwhelmingly chose. Elected prosecutors are accountable to the people, not the political motivations of a power-hungry state legislature. We hope the courts will continue to recognize this fundamental ideal of our democracy.”

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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](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).*