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FJP Statement on Oral Argument in Worrell v. DeSantis

<u>Fair and Just Prosecution</u> Executive Director Miriam Krinsky issued the following statement in response to today's oral argument in front of the Florida Supreme Court in State Attorney Monique Worrell's challenge to her baseless suspension by Governor Ron DeSantis:

"Governor DeSantis' suspension of State Attorney Monique Worrell was a dangerous affront to democracy. We hope the Florida Supreme Court rejects the governor's brazen power grab and makes clear that his actions are subject to judicial review.

There was no constitutional basis for SA Worrell's suspension – the governor instead simply decided his opinions and political ambitions mattered more than the nearly 400,000 voters who elected her. If there are no checks on the governor's power to overturn elections, trust in our democracy will be irreparably harmed and people will be less likely to cooperate with government and law enforcement – and that, in turn, is a threat to the safety of all of us.

That's why more than 120 bipartisan leaders, including five former Florida Supreme Court Justices, filed an <u>amicus brief</u> in this case urging the Court to overturn the governor's order and reinstate SA Worrell as the prosecutor of Orange and Osceola Counties.

The people of Florida deserve to be represented by their chosen leaders. We hope the Court will do the right thing, preserve and protect the foundation of our democracy, and ensure that no Florida governor can overrule the will of the people."

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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>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Threads</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u>.