



**National District Attorneys Association**  
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January 8, 2021

The Honorable Dick Durbin  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin & Ranking Member Grassley,

On behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), the oldest and largest national, non-partisan organization representing state and local prosecutors in the country with more than 5,000 members nationwide, I write to express support for Judge Merrick B. Garland to be the next Attorney General of the United States of America. President-Elect Joseph R. Biden's nominee is eminently qualified to serve as the Nation's chief law enforcement officer.

Judge Garland's distinguished past service to the Department of Justice (DOJ), serving multiple roles including as a Federal prosecutor, bolsters his credentials as an ideal candidate to be confirmed as the Attorney General of the United States. First joining the Department as a Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States during President Jimmy Carter's administration, Judge Garland returned from private practice to serve as both an Assistant United States Attorney and a Deputy Assistant Attorney General during both President George H.W. Bush and President Bill Clinton's administrations. This extensive, bipartisan experience makes Judge Garland uniquely suited to lead our Nation's Justice Department during this fractured time in our history.

Through overseeing complex prosecutions, such as the Oklahoma City Bombing, Judge Garland has proven himself capable of protecting American citizens and ensuring justice is served in accordance with the rule of law. After President-Elect Biden announced his nomination, Judge Garland stated, "the essence of the rule of law is that like cases are treated alike: That there not be one rule for Democrats and another for Republicans, one rule for friends, another for foes, one rule for the powerful, and another for the powerless." These comments echo the sentiment of prosecutors throughout the country and confirm Judge Garland's commitment to equality under the law. Further, his past service has earned him a reputation as an effective, consensus-building leader through service as a Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General at DOJ, a United States Circuit Judge and then as the Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Based on these qualifications, NDAA encourages the United States Senate to swiftly confirm Judge Merrick B. Garland as the next Attorney General of the United States. Judge Garland's track record of upholding the rule of law and building a more equitable justice system encourages us that he will continue the Department's effort to maintain open lines of communication with state and local prosecutors in the field. Further, we look forward to the opportunity to discuss new ways in which DOJ can partner with state and local prosecutors and law enforcement to better protect the communities they serve.

We are confident that Judge Merrick B. Garland will affirm the Department of Justice's commitment to providing justice to the American people and assist in supporting state and local law enforcement in our shared mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy G. Parr". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N" and "P".

Nancy G. Parr  
NDAA President