



**National  
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.*

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February 11, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter in Support of the Honorable Merrick B. Garland, nominee to become  
the United States Attorney General

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman Durbin, and  
Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the National Urban League (NUL), I write in unqualified support of the  
Honorable Merrick B. Garland to serve as Attorney General of the United States.

The NUL is an historic civil rights organization that was founded in 1910 to uplift and  
empower Americans confronting inequality and injustice in all forms. Today, NUL has 90  
affiliates serving 300 communities in 37 states and the District of Columbia, and has, within  
its mission, also sought to address the systemic injustices in our criminal justice system.

The United States Department of Justice is foundational to criminal justice in America and  
is led by the Attorney General. The mission of the Justice Department is to, among other  
things, uphold the rule of law, ensure public safety, and promote the fair and impartial  
administration of justice for all. This past summer, the outpouring of pain and grief over  
racial injustice, and the recent deadly riot in the U.S. Capitol, reveal how justice is not  
always fair and impartial in this country.

We are at a time of crisis in our nation. A time of reckoning over the racial inequality and  
injustice that has caused many Americans to lose faith in our institutions and in the rule of  
law. To address these pressing issues, it is imperative that the Justice Department be led  
by a person of the utmost integrity, a person who is clear-eyed about the injustice and  
inequality in our justice system, and someone who can provide confidence that the  
Justice Department will be led with independence and integrity.



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Judge Garland is that leader. He is held in high esteem by both his peers and observers. He led the investigation and prosecution of domestic terrorists Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols with clarity and fairness. He has served with distinction from the bench for over 20 years as someone who is independent and impartial. He has further expressed a deep commitment to not only uphold the rule of law, but also prioritizing issues that are exacerbating inequalities in America today -- such as the COVID-19 crisis in our prisons and implementation of fairer sentencing reforms. He has further reiterated that "equal justice under law is that all citizens are protected in the exercise of their civil rights."

I urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to quickly process Judge Garland's nomination, and for the Senate to confirm him so that he is confirmed without any unnecessary delay.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Marc H. Morial  
President and CEO  
National Urban League