



40 Washington Square South, Rm. 317
New York, New York 10012-1099
Tel: (212) 998-6293
Fax: (212) 995-4030
barry.friedman@nyu.edu

Barry Friedman

*Jacob D. Fuchsberg Professor of Law
Affiliated Professor of Politics
Director, Policing Project*

February 24, 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

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chair Durbin, and Ranking Member Grassley,

We are writing to offer our strong support for the confirmation of Vanita Gupta as the Associate Attorney General at the United States Department of Justice.

Although we write in our individual capacities, all of us are Reporters or Advisers on the American Law Institute's project, *Principles of the Law: Policing*. As the title suggests, we have been working together for over five years drafting general principles to guide and improve policing in the United States. As such, we are familiar with the important work Ms. Gupta performed as Acting Assistant Attorney General responsible for the Civil Rights Division at the USDOJ, as well as her long career advancing civil rights and equality. Many of us know her personally.

Ms. Gupta has a number of traits that commend her for this position. At the forefront, of course, is her respect for the law, and her devotion to ensuring equality and civil liberties for all. She brings to her work a notable judiciousness and ability to work with others. That was evident in her time at the Civil Rights Division. Although the work often required taking positions in opposition to existing policing practices, she managed to do so in a way that earned the respect of many in law enforcement. That is because she listens carefully to all sides, and always tries to do the right thing.

Ms. Gupta will make an outstanding Associate Attorney General, and we urge you to advance her nomination and confirm her into the position.

With all best regards,

Note: Affiliations are for identification purposes and do not represent endorsements from any of the organizations with which we work.

Art Acevedo
Chief of Police, Houston Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Hassan Aden
Founder, The Aden Group, LLC
Chief of Police, Greenville Police Department (Ret.)

Scott Bales
Arizona Supreme Court (Ret.)

Michael Bromwich
Founder, The Bromwich Group

Brian Buchner
Past President, National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement

David Cole
National Legal Director, ACLU

Brandon del Pozo, PhD
The Miriam Hospital / Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

Adrian Z. Diaz
Chief of Police, Seattle Police Department

James Doyle
Bassil & Budreau, Of Counsel

Zachary Fardon
Partner, King & Spalding
Former U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Illinois

Andrew Guthrie Ferguson
Professor of Law, American University Washington College of Law

Barry Friedman
Jacob D. Fuchsberg Professor of Law
Faculty Director of the Policing Project
New York University School of Law
Reporter, Principles of the Law: Policing

Brandon L. Garrett
L. Neil Williams Professor of Law and Director, Wilson Center for Science and Justice
Duke University School of Law
Associate Reporter, Principles of the Law: Policing

George Gascón
Los Angeles County District Attorney

Rachel Harmon
Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Criminal Justice
University of Virginia School of Law
Associate Reporter, Principles of the Law: Policing

Nola M. Joyce
Partner, 21CP Solutions, LLC

Miriam Aroni Krinsky
Former Assistant U.S. Attorney, Central District of California
Former Chair, Solicitor General's Appellate Working Group
Executive Director, Fair and Just Prosecution

Christy Lopez
Professor from Practice, Georgetown University Law Center
Project Fellow, Principles of the Law: Policing

Tracey L. Meares
Walton Hale Hamilton Professor and Faculty Director of the Justice Collaboratory
Yale Law School
Associate Reporter, Principles of the Law: Policing

Maria Ponomarenko
Associate Professor of Law, University of Minnesota Law School
Co-Founder and Counsel, The Policing Project at New York University School of Law
Associate Reporter, Principles of the Law: Policing

Sue Rahr
Sheriff, King County, Seattle, WA (Ret.)
Executive Director, WA State Criminal Justice Training Commission
Member, President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing

Charles H. Ramsey
Commissioner, Philadelphia Police Department (Ret.)
Co-Chair, President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing
Partner, 21CP Solutions, LLC

Dick Reeve
Denver District Attorney's Office (Ret.)

Norman L. Reimer
Adviser, Principles of the Law: Policing

Joanna C. Schwartz
Professor of Law, UCLA School of Law

Christopher Slobogin
Milton Underwood Professor of Law, Vanderbilt University
Associate Reporter, Principles of the Law: Policing

Sean M. Smoot
Managing Partner, 21CP Solutions, LLC

Darrel Stephens
Chief, Charlotte-Mecklenburg PD (Ret.)
Executive Director, Major Cities Chiefs Association (Ret.)

Seth W. Stoughton
Associate Professor of Law and Associate Professor (Affiliate) of Criminology & Criminal
Justice, University of South Carolina

Nina E. Vinik
Director, Gun Violence Prevention Program & Justice Reform Program
The Joyce Foundation

Samuel Walker
Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Harlan Yu
Executive Director, Upturn