

For Immediate Release

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FAIR AND JUST PROSECUTION AWARDED ART FOR JUSTICE FUND GRANT

Fair and Just Prosecution (FJP) is honored to have been named a recipient of an inaugural Art for Justice Fund grant that will help the organization continue its mission of assisting and supporting a network of newly elected prosecutors committed to compassionate, fair and equitable criminal justice reforms.

The grant was made possible through a generous donation by philanthropist Agnes Gund, who provided a \$100 million donation from the sale of artwork from her personal collection to the Ford Foundation, which administers the Art for Justice program.

"The generosity of donors like Agnes Gund will help ensure that FJP and other criminal justice organizations can help build a safer, smarter and right-sized justice system," said Miriam Krinsky, a former federal prosecutor and Executive Director of Fair and Just Prosecution. "The Art for Justice Fund is helping our organization and allies across the country move away from past incarceration-driven approaches and embrace strategies that address racial discrimination and other inequities that continue to plague our criminal justice system."

In partnership with the Ford Foundation and Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, the Art for Justice Fund provides grants to non-profit advocacy, education and other organizations focused on bringing new thinking to the criminal justice arena.

"There has never been a more opportune moment for change, and FJP is at the center of that," noted Washington, D.C. Attorney General Karl Racine.

"We have ushered in a new way of thinking about our role in the justice system, about the power we wield and also about the tools we have at our disposal to positively impact the community," Fourth Judicial Circuit (Jacksonville), Florida State Attorney Melissa Nelson.

FJP's network includes prosecutors from communities across the country who are committed to changing their approach to criminal justice, including by advocating for bail reform, rebuilding community trust, and implementing strategies to avoid criminalizing mental illness, poverty or substance abuse. FJP provides a forum for prosecutors to share best practices, and also provides research materials, technical assistance and access to national experts.

"We're seeing a critical moment for change as more communities around the nation are electing prosecutors open to trying new approaches and embracing innovations proven to reduce crime while remaining fair to all communities," Krinsky said. "With support from the Art for Justice fund, we hope to promote and support new approaches among prosecutors – the critical gatekeepers to the criminal justice system."

To learn more about FJP's work, visit <u>www.fairandjustprosecution.org</u> or follow us on Facebook @FairAndJustProsecution.