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The Role of Elected Prosecutors in Promoting Fair and Free Elections

***FJP releases new voter protection resources aimed at combating misinformation,
preparing for potential voter intimidation and protecting the right to vote***

Today, Fair and Just Prosecution released new resources and a new web page with critical information for elected prosecutors on navigating the 2020 election and its aftermath. As these resources note, public trust in democracy is integral to public safety. Efforts to interfere with the voting process – including attempts to engage in voter intimidation or suppression – threaten the integrity of all our systems, including the criminal justice system.

[*“Recommendations for Elected Prosecutor Engagement in Protecting the Right to Vote”*](#) outlines steps prosecutors can take to protect voting rights and guard against interference at the polls, ensure that the public is adequately informed of voting procedures and key information, and proactively correct any misinformation or voter fraud myths. The [*“Elected Prosecutor Guide to Voter Protection Planning”*](#) operationalizes these recommendations by addressing tactical considerations, key principles to guide work with law enforcement partners and foundational questions to consider in guarding against interference with voting at the polls – including how to handle reports of voter intimidation, when and if law enforcement or other observers should be present at polling locations, how prosecutors can prepare for possible firearms or armed militia at or near polling places, and how law enforcement can address disturbances without escalating conflict and disruptions. Finally, the [Resources and Materials List](#) offers examples, promising practices and key information from around the nation that can assist elected prosecutors working to promote fair and free elections and protect the rights of all voters, and the [Early Voting Fact Sheet](#) has an overview of quick facts surrounding early voting in the United States.

“If people cannot trust in the legitimacy and integrity of our democracy, it compromises faith in the rule of law and jeopardizes public safety,” said **Miriam Krinsky, Executive Director of FJP**. “Elected prosecutors have a responsibility to ensure that their communities can vote safely and that any interference with the right to vote is handled swiftly, in accordance with local laws and de-escalation strategies, and without creating further disruptions in the voting process. It’s critical that these local leaders put plans in place to decisively respond to any reports of voter interference or intimidation, while also underscoring the longstanding integrity of our country’s voting process, so that this election is a true reflection of the will of the people.”

Visit FJP’s new website page on [Promoting Fair and Free Elections](#) to learn more.

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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 [website](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).