



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Statement Commending Court’s Refusal to Grant TRO and Enjoin
Implementation of DA George Gascon’s New Criminal Justice Reforms**
*Fair and Just Prosecution Speaks Out in Support of Los Angeles DA’s Discretion to
Revisit Past Punitive Charging and Sentencing Practices*

[Fair and Just Prosecution](#) Executive Director Miriam Krinsky issued the following statement in regard to today’s refusal by the court to grant the temporary restraining order requested by the Association of Deputy District Attorneys (ADDA) for Los Angeles County – and the ADDA’s attempt to restrain ongoing implementation of new policies enacted by Los Angeles District Attorney George Gascon:

“Democratic elections in this country mean that Americans get to decide on their vision of justice and how to promote safe and healthy communities – including what they need to live safe and dignified lives and who can deliver that future. This November, voters in Los Angeles County overwhelmingly elected George Gascon to be their District Attorney after he promised to roll back decades of mass incarceration through proven strategies, enhance accountability and transparency, and reduce the tremendous racial disparities that have persisted in the criminal justice system for far too long. On day one, DA Gascon took steps to deliver exactly what he promised he would do, enacting policies to end the death penalty; treat kids as kids and in a manner consistent with science; and limit the use of sentencing enhancements that have put people in prison for years on end and ballooned prison populations, while failing to advance public safety.

It is disheartening to see the recent efforts by the Association of Deputy District Attorneys to block the unambiguous will of the voters. Given their noticeable silence during a long history of relying on prosecutorial discretion to bring more serious charges, pile on enhancements, and ratchet up penalties, this week’s claim that DA Gascon’s policies are somehow “unethical” or “unlawful” and that line prosecutors should not be expected to implement changes that voters resoundingly embraced rings hollow. Courts have repeatedly affirmed the discretion of the DA to guide the limited resources of that office in designing sensible charging policies that are integral to the fair and efficient administration of justice. This lawsuit suggests little more than personal opposition by some to change and a lack of willingness to abandon a status quo that has fractured trust in our criminal legal system, harmed communities of color, squandered lives and scarce resources, and failed to advance the interest of public safety.”

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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](#).