

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 22, 2021

MEDIA CONTACT

Miriam Krinsky

krinskym@krinsky.la

818-416-5218

FJP Statement on Merrick Garland Confirmation Hearings and the Urgency of Filling Key DOJ Leadership Positions

[Fair and Just Prosecution](#) Executive Director Miriam Krinsky issued the following statement in regard to today's start of confirmation hearings for Attorney General nominee Merrick Garland:

“The long-awaited commencement of Merrick Garland’s confirmation hearing is an important step toward filling this critical position, promoting an independent and credible federal justice system, and addressing timely issues around racial equity in our nation. After four years of failed U.S. Department of Justice policies, our communities can’t afford to wait any longer for new leadership in this vitally important arm of our government.

In addition to confirming this incredibly qualified and highly regarded jurist as our new Attorney General, I urge quick confirmation of other DOJ nominees – including **Lisa Monaco** for Deputy Attorney General, **Vanita Gupta** for Associate Attorney General and **Kristen Clarke** to lead DOJ’s Civil Rights Division.

I also hope the Biden-Harris administration will move swiftly to fill other key leadership positions at DOJ, including replacing U.S. attorneys around the nation and selecting capable and visionary leaders to head the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) office and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The right people are needed in these positions to respond to [mounting calls](#) for [criminal justice reform](#) and enhanced police accountability.

I urge both Congress and the Biden-Harris administration to [act swiftly](#) in filling and confirming these positions, so we can start the vital work of building safer and fairer communities across America.”

###

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](#).