



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **FJP Statement on Ruling in *Association of Deputy District Attorneys for Los Angeles County vs. George Gascón***

[Fair and Just Prosecution](#) Executive Director Miriam Krinsky issued the following statement in response to the preliminary injunction ruling issued yesterday in the lawsuit brought by the Association of Deputy District Attorneys in the County of Los Angeles (“ADDA”) challenging the reforms newly-elected District Attorney George Gascón announced when he took office, including new directives ending the practice of charging and seeking certain sentencing enhancements:

“District Attorney George Gascón was elected by the people of Los Angeles County with a mandate to transform the criminal legal system. As such, we are disappointed that the court chose to interfere with the elected DA’s exercise of prosecutorial discretion in regard to certain cases.

DA Gascón’s directives were designed to create a more sensible, humane and effective starting point for charging offenses by ending the use of specified sentencing enhancements that mandate additional time on top of already significant sentences, which have fueled mass incarceration in our overcrowded county and state correctional facilities. DA Gascón’s policies were deeply rooted in the evidence confirming that ‘tough on crime’ policies of past decades failed and excessive incarceration doesn’t make people safer – instead, these approaches [increase](#) the [risk](#) of future crime at an [enormous cost](#) to individuals, communities and taxpayers.

This lawsuit and ruling have, for now, stalled some of the changes Los Angeles County voters embraced in electing DA Gascón, but we are confident that DA Gascón will adjust his policies, as may be needed, and explore all appellate options as appropriate to continue to advance the vision of justice the voters elected him to implement. At the end of the day, as argued in an [amicus brief](#) filed by 65 current and former elected prosecutors (including two former Los Angeles County District Attorneys), the elected district attorney *alone* should have the power to define prosecutorial policy in Los Angeles County.”

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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](#).*