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FJP Announces Kauai County, HI Prosecuting Attorney Justin Kollar as New Chief of Staff

Fair and Just Prosecution announced today that Kauai County, HI elected Prosecuting Attorney Justin Kollar will leave his current job and join FJP next month in the new role of Chief of Staff. He will step into this leadership position at FJP with extensive experience in running a reform-minded prosecutorial office and a demonstrated commitment to transforming the criminal legal system. FJP is excited to welcome to its team a capable and bold reformer who will further FJP's mission of creating and promoting a justice system grounded in fairness, equity, compassion and fiscal responsibility.

"Hawaii's loss is the national reform-minded prosecutor movement's gain, and we're honored to have Justin join FJP as we continue to build out this timely and vitally important work," said **Miriam Krinsky**, **Executive Director of Fair and Just Prosecution**. "Justin will now be in a unique position to support the growing movement of elected prosecutors nationwide who are committed to a new vision of justice and understand the need to move away from past punitive approaches that fueled mass incarceration. We're thrilled to have such a distinguished and respected leader help usher in FJP's next chapter."

Kollar joins FJP having served as the Kauai County Prosecuting Attorney since his first election to that position in 2012 and previously as the county's Deputy County Attorney and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney. He was also the Kauai Police Department's first legal advisor and most recently served on the Hawaii Supreme Court Board of Examiners and the Hawaii Task Force on Lawyer Well-being. During his tenure as Prosecuting Attorney, Kollar has prioritized working with communities and stakeholders to promote public safety while reducing reliance on incarceration – including, among other things, seeking to end cash bail, limiting reliance on youth fines and fees, declining to prosecute peaceful protestors and ensuring his office embraces transparency and shares information with defense counsel.

"I am thrilled to join the FJP team at a critical moment in the fight for justice in our country," said Kollar. "As an elected prosecutor, I understand what it takes to bring about change from the inside as well as the tremendous ability of DAs to advance reform, and I look forward to using my experience to support my fellow reform-minded prosecutors as they continue the urgent and important work of reimagining our criminal legal system."

Kollar earned his law degree from Suffolk University Law School and graduated from Boston University with a degree in History and Political Science.

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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 <u>website</u> and follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u>.