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Safeguarding Justice for All Americans

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August 18, 2021

The Honorable Lisa Monaco
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Deputy Attorney General Monaco:

On behalf of the National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys (NAAUSA), representing the interests of the over 6,000 Assistant U.S. Attorneys (AUSAs) working in the 94 U.S. Attorney Offices, I would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with our leadership team and discuss important issues for our association, our membership, and the Department.

It is our hope this meeting serves as the first in a more familiar, frequent, and productive working relationship with the Department. AUSAs are often viewed as the front lines of our justice system. We work closely with federal law enforcement partner organizations and engage directly with the American people across our nation's U.S. Attorney Offices. In this position, we develop a unique knowledge about issues on the ground and expertise in the enforcement of our nation's laws. We look forward to using this expertise to enhance the Department and serve as an in-the-field asset in your endeavors.

As discussed in our meeting this week, under-compensation is the most significant barrier to the success, recruitment, and retention of qualified and diverse AUSAs. As we work to rectify the issues of pay disparity and pay transparency, we wish for the Department to be our partner. We also hope to partner with the Department on our goal of increasing consistency in work-life benefits, including teleworking, across all U.S. Attorney Offices, while also maintaining safety during COVID-19 and a time of increased law enforcement animus. We have been extremely pleased with the Biden-Harris Administration's rhetoric on supporting federal employees and overcoming inequities. We hope Department leadership can make that rhetoric a reality for AUSAs.

Finally, I have attached a proposed draft of NAAUSA's Part 251 Agreement. We believe this will provide a framework for developing a more consistent, effective, and beneficial relationship between NAAUSA and the Department. This draft is meant to start the conversation and propose ideas to build from. We eagerly await the opportunity to discuss this draft with the appropriate personnel.

We look forward to working together over the next several years to bring real action on these items and more. Please know NAAUSA is here to support the Department

and serve as your partner in bettering our justice system.

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to working with NAAUSA.
We look forward to working with you and your team at the Department of Justice.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence J. Leiser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "J".

Lawrence J. Leiser
President

CC: John Carlin, Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General;
Monty Wilkinson, Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys;
Norman Wong, Principal Deputy Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys