

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 15, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

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Dear U.S. Attorneys Lausch, Milhiser and Weinhoeft:

The January 6, 2021 attack at the United States Capitol was an outrageous assault on our constitutional order, our Republic and the law enforcement officers defending our democracy. It was a violent act of insurrection and an un-American seditious conspiracy that used force to oppose the authority of the United States; prevent, hinder and delay the execution of the Electoral Count Act; and unlawfully seize, take or possess property of the United States. During this attack, lawless thugs brutally murdered a Capitol Police Officer and reportedly threatened to assassinate public officials, including the Vice President of the United States and the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

This violent mob, incited by the President of the United States, and comforted – and potentially aided – by certain Members of Congress, sought to halt the peaceful transfer of power through an act of domestic terror, effectively assaulting the Constitution of the United States of America itself by preventing the people's elected representatives from performing their constitutional duty. All who swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign *and* domestic, must demonstrate resolve and determination in continuing to oppose and hold accountable our Nation's domestic enemies who have demonstrated contempt for our Constitution and the rule of law.

I call on each of your respective offices to commit to working with law enforcement partners to identify and prosecute, to the fullest extent of the law, any Illinois resident that participated in the January 6 attack. This may require dusting off criminal statutes that none of us may have envisioned having to ever enforce, but know that you will have our support in taking all appropriate action to bring domestic enemies of the United States to justice using all statutory authorities and tools available under the United States Code.

In addition, we also call on each of your offices to coordinate closely with law enforcement partners to prevent and respond to potential further acts of domestic terrorism, violent

insurrection or seditious conspiracy in our home State of Illinois. Reports indicate that domestic extremists may be seeking to attack State Capitals throughout the country in the days surrounding the inauguration.

Law enforcement in Illinois must be pre-positioned, prepared and ready to take swift action to apprehend and detain individuals at the scene of insurrectionist crimes, rather than allowing thugs to walk away to sleep in the comfort of their own homes. And federal prosecutors must be prepared to work hand-in-hand with law enforcement to investigate and, where warranted, prosecute such crimes. These domestic enemies seek to destroy a government of the people, by the people and for the people – and it is our collective duty to stop them. Thank you for your consideration of our urgent request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator