

THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

MINORITY WHIP Ranker - Judiciary COMMITTEES Ways and Means Codes Ethics and Guidance Oversight, Analysis and Investigation Rules

January 13, 2022

Honorable Governor Hochul Governor of the State of New York Executive Chamber New York State Capitol Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

As the Minority Conference members of the Assembly Judiciary Committee we write to call on you to remove Alvin Bragg from the public office of District Attorney, County of New York, effective immediately.

As you are aware, under the New York State Constitution at Article XIII, § 13(b), "the governor may remove any district attorney within the term for which he or she shall have been elected." Accordingly, we ask that you exercise your constitutional authority, and initiate a proceeding for the prompt removal of Mr. Bragg pursuant to the procedures found in Public Officers Law Section 34.

District Attorney Bragg recently released a "Policy & Procedure Memorandum" (a copy is attached for your convenience) that reflects his intentional dereliction of duty. The Memorandum provides, in relevant part, that the Office of the District Attorney will ignore the bail laws of this State by exercising a "presumption of pre-trial non-incarceration" for most serious felony offenses. Mr. Bragg further published that his office will not prosecute a host of other criminal offenses. When Mr. Bragg was sworn in, he took an oath of office to enforce the laws of this State, but subsequently rescinded that pledge.

Mr. Bragg's conduct further rises to the level of criminal culpability. For example, there have already been two instances where he has downgraded armed robberies to misdemeanor offenses and disregarded the fact that a deadly weapon was involved. Consequently, Mr. Bragg has committed the misdemeanor offense of official misconduct under Penal Law Section 195.00 by knowingly refraining from performing a duty which is imposed upon him by law and is clearly inherent in the nature of his office. Further, Mr. Bragg has violated Chapter 49, Section 1116, of the New York City Charter, as he willfully violated and/or evaded numerous provisions of law relating to his employment with the City of New York.

As such, we respectfully request that you initiate the proper proceedings for his removal from office.

Best regards,

milel a. montuno

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Keith P. Brown 12th Assembly District

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Enc.

Cc:

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