

**IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

LARRY KRASNER, in his official capacity  
as the District Attorney of Philadelphia,

*Petitioner,*

v.

SENATOR KIM WARD, in her official  
capacity as Interim President Pro Tempore  
of the Senate; REPRESENTATIVE  
TIMOTHY R. BONNER, in his official  
capacity as an impeachment manager;  
REPRESENTATIVE CRAIG WILLIAMS,  
in his official capacity as an impeachment  
manager; REPRESENTATIVE JARED  
SOLOMON, in his official capacity as an  
impeachment manager; and JOHN DOES,  
in their official capacities as members of  
the SENATE IMPEACHMENT  
COMMITTEE;

*Respondents.*

Docket No. 563 MD 2022

**[PROPOSED] ORDER #1**

Upon consideration of Petitioners' Application for Summary Relief and for Expedited Briefing ("Application"), it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Application for an expedited briefing schedule is **GRANTED**. It is **FURTHER ORDERED**:

1. Respondents Senator Kim Ward, in her official capacity as Interim President Pro Tempore of the Senate; Representative Timothy R. Bonner, in his official capacity as an impeachment manager; Representative Craig Williams, in his official capacity as an impeachment manager; and Representative Jared

Solomon, in his official capacity as an impeachment manager shall have 7 days after filing and service of Petitioner's Application and accompanying Memorandum of Law to file a response brief.

2. Petitioner's Reply brief, if any, shall be filed no more than 5 days thereafter.

3. The Prothonotary shall place this matter on the first available argument list following the deadline for Petitioner's Reply brief.

4. No extension of this briefing schedule will be granted absent extraordinary circumstances.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

---

, J.

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Docket No. 563 MD 2022

**[PROPOSED] ORDER #2**

Upon consideration of Petitioners' Application for Summary Relief and for Expedited Briefing ("Application"), and any response thereto, it is hereby

**ORDERED** that the Application is **GRANTED**. It is **FURTHER ORDERED**:

1. A declaration is entered in favor of Petitioner Lawrence Krasner, in his official capacity as the District Attorney of Philadelphia, and against Respondents Senator Kim Ward, in her official capacity as President Pro Tempore of the Senate; Representative Timothy R. Bonner, in his official capacity as an

impeachment manager; Representative Craig Williams, in his official capacity as an impeachment manager; and Representative Jared Solomon, in his official capacity as an impeachment manager (collectively, “Respondents”), as follows:

- (A) The Amended Articles of Impeachment against District Attorney Krasner, House Resolution No. 240, Printer’s No. 3634 (Nov. 16, 2022) (“Amended Articles”) and related legislative business, including Senate Resolutions 386, 387, and 388, became null and void on November 30, 2022, upon the adjournment *sine die* of the 206<sup>th</sup> General Assembly legislative session.
- (B) Article VI, Section 6 of the Pennsylvania Constitution does not authorize impeachment of District Attorney Krasner by the General Assembly.
- (C) The Amended Articles against District Attorney Krasner do not allege conduct that constitutes “any misbehavior in office” within the meaning of Article VI, Section 6 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.
- (D) Respondents have no authority to take up the Amended Articles and any such efforts would be unlawful.

(E) Any effort by the Respondents, House of Representatives or Senate to take up the Amended Articles or related legislation, including Senate Resolutions 386, 387, or 388, is unlawful.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

---

, J.

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Docket No. 563 MD 2022

**APPLICATION FOR SUMMARY RELIEF AND  
EXPEDITED BRIEFING**

Pursuant to Pa. R.A.P. 1532(b), Petitioner Larry Krasner, in his official capacity as the District Attorney of Philadelphia, respectfully requests an order granting summary relief in the nature of declaratory relief, declaring as a matter of law that: (1) the Amended Articles of Impeachment against District Attorney Krasner became null and void on November 30, 2022, upon the adjournment *sine die* of the 206<sup>th</sup> General Assembly's legislative session; (2) the Pennsylvania Constitution does not authorize the General Assembly to impeach District Attorney Krasner; and (3) the Amended Articles of Impeachment against District Attorney Krasner do not allege any conduct that constitutes "any misbehavior in office" within the meaning of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

Petitioner further requests expedited briefing on this Application.

In support of this Application, Petitioner relies on its accompanying Memorandum of Law, which is incorporated herein. Two proposed orders are attached, one relating to expedited briefing and another related to the declaratory relief sought by this Application.

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Dated: December 2, 2022

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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**MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONER'S  
APPLICATION FOR SUMMARY RELIEF AND EXPEDITED BRIEFING**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION .....	1
STATEMENT OF UNDISPUTED FACTS .....	3
LEGAL STANDARD.....	7
ARGUMENT .....	8
I. THE IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DISTRICT ATTORNEY LARRY KRASNER DO NOT CARRY OVER TO THE TWO HUNDRED SEVENTH PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY .....	8
A. The Pennsylvania Constitution and the Pennsylvania Code Provide that the Business of the General Assembly Terminates at the End of the General Assembly’s Second Regular Session. ....	9
B. The Rules of the General Assembly and Pennsylvania Precedent Also Provide that the Business of the General Assembly Terminates at the End of the General Assembly’s Second Regular Session. ....	12
II. DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER IS NOT SUBJECT TO IMPEACHMENT BECAUSE THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTION DOES NOT AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO IMPEACH LOCALLY ELECTED OFFICIALS SUCH AS THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY.....	16
A. As a Local Official, District Attorney Krasner Is Not A “Civil Officer” Within The Meaning Of Article VI. ....	17
B. Impeachment Of Philadelphia Local Officials Is Constitutionally Delegated to Statutory Law Governing First Class Cities.....	21

III. DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER IS NOT SUBJECT TO IMPEACHMENT BECAUSE THE AMENDED ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT DO NOT ALLEGE CONDUCT THAT CONSTITUTES “ANY MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE.” .....26

A. “Misbehavior In Office” Means Criminal Conduct, Including a Failure to Perform a Positive Ministerial Duty or the Performance of a Discretionary Duty with an Improper Motive.....27

B. The Amended Articles of Impeachment Do Not Allege Conduct that Constitutes “Any Misbehavior in Office” .....30

C. The Amended Articles’ Reliance on Dicta from *Larsen v. Senate of Pennsylvania* Is Misplaced.....36

CONCLUSION .....40

## TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

	Page(s)
<b>Cases</b>	
<i>Allen v. Pennsylvania Bd. of Prob. &amp; Parole</i> , 207 A.3d 981 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2019) .....	8
<i>In re Ballentine</i> , 86 A.3d 958 (Pa. Ct. Jud. Disc. 2013) .....	29
<i>In re Berkhimer</i> , 877 A.2d 579 (Pa. Ct. Jud. Disc. 2005) .....	29
<i>Beyers v. Richmond</i> , 937 A.2d 1082 (Pa. 2007) .....	33
<i>In re Braig</i> , 590 A.2d 284 (Pa. 1991) .....	27, 28, 29, 36, 38, 39
<i>Brown v. Brancato</i> , 184 A. 89 (Pa. 1936) .....	13, 15
<i>Burger v. Sch. Bd. of McGuffey Sch. Dist.</i> , 923 A.2d 1155 (Pa. 2007) .....	19, 20, 21, 22, 26
<i>Burns v. Coyne</i> , 144 A. 667 (Pa. 1928) .....	17
<i>In re Cain</i> , 590 A.2d 291 (Pa. 1991) .....	30
<i>Commonwealth ex rel. Carcaci v. Brandamore</i> , 327 A.2d 1 (Pa. 1974) .....	32
<i>Carter v. City of Philadelphia</i> , 181 F.3d 339 (3d Cir. 1999) .....	17, 25
<i>Cavanaugh v. Davis</i> , 440 A.2d 1380 (Pa. 1982) .....	39
<i>Chalfin v. Specter</i> , 233 A.2d 562 (Pa. 1967) (Bell, C.J., concurring) .....	25

<i>Commonwealth v. Bready</i> , 286 A.2d 654 (Pa. Super. 1971) .....	33
<i>Commonwealth v. Clancy</i> , 192 A.3d 44 (Pa. 2018) .....	29, 31
<i>Commonwealth v. Costello</i> , No. 315, 1912 WL 3913 (Pa. Quar. Sess. Mar. 15, 1912).....	14
<i>Commonwealth v. Davis</i> , 149 A. 176 (Pa. 1930).....	27, 30
<i>Commonwealth v. Green</i> , 211 A.2d 5 (Pa. Super. 1965).....	28
<i>Commonwealth v. Hubbs</i> , 8 A.2d 618 (Pa. Super. 1939).....	28, 36
<i>Commonwealth v. Peoples</i> , 28 A.2d 792 (Pa. 1942).....	27
<i>Commonwealth v. Robinson</i> , 204 A.3d 326 (Pa. 2018).....	35
<i>Commonwealth v. Shaver</i> , 3 Watts & Serg. 338 (Pa. 1842).....	27
<i>Commonwealth v. Steinberg</i> , 362 A.2d 379 (Pa. Super. 1976) .....	28
<i>Commonwealth v. Sutley</i> , 378 A.2d 780 (Pa. 1977).....	33
<i>Creamer v. Twelve Common Pleas Judges</i> , 281 A.2d 57 (Pa. 1971).....	10
<i>In re Dalessandro</i> , 596 A.2d 798 (Pa. 1991).....	29, 30
<i>Emhardt v. Wilson</i> , 20 Pa. D. & C. 608 (Ct. Com. Pl. 1934).....	18

<i>Frame v. Sutherland</i> , 327 A.2d 623 (Pa. 1974).....	14, 15
<i>In re Humane Soc’y of the Harrisburg Area, Inc.</i> , 92 A.3d 1264 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2014) .....	39
<i>Jubelirer v. Rendell</i> , 953 A.2d 514 (Pa. 2008).....	7
<i>Larsen v. State of Pennsylvania</i> , 646 A.2d 694 (Pa. Commw. 1994).....	15, 36, 37, 38, 39
<i>Lloyd v. Fishinger</i> , 605 A.2d 1193 (Pa. 1992).....	33
<i>Marshall Impeachment Case</i> , 62 A.2d 30, 32 (Pa. 1948).....	22, 26
<i>Marshall Impeachment Case</i> , 69 A.2d 619, 625 (Pa. 1949).....	22, 26
<i>McMenamin v. Tartaglione</i> , No. 3713, 1991 WL 1011018 (Pa. Com. Pl. Mar. 26, 1991) <i>aff’d</i> , 590 A.2d 802 (Pa. Commw. 1991), <i>aff’d without opinion</i> , 590 A.2d 753 (mem.) (Pa. 1991).....	25
<i>Mummau v. Ranck</i> , 531 F. Supp. 402 (E.D. Pa.), <i>aff’d</i> , 687 F.2d 9 (3d Cir. 1982) .....	29, 30, 31
<i>Northway Vill. No. 3, Inc. v. Northway Props., Inc.</i> , 244 A.2d 47 (Pa. 1968).....	17
<i>Scarnati v. Wolf</i> , 135 A.3d 200 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2015), <i>rev’d on other grounds</i> , 173 A.3d 1110 (Pa. 2017).....	15
<i>Scarnati v. Wolf</i> , 173 A.3d 1110 (Pa. 2017).....	10
<i>In re Scott</i> , 596 A.2d 150 (Pa. 1991).....	36

<i>Commonwealth ex rel. Spector v. Martin</i> , 232 A.2d 729 (Pa. 1967).....	29, 31
<i>Commonwealth ex rel. Spector v. Bauer</i> , 261 A.2d 573 (Pa. 1970).....	29, 31
<i>United States v. Berrigan</i> , 482 F.2d 171 (3d Cir. 1973) .....	30
<i>Watson v. Pennsylvania Tpk. Comm'n</i> , 125 A.2d 354 (Pa. 1956).....	22
<i>Weiss v. Ziegler</i> , 193 A. 642 (Pa. 1937).....	22
<i>Commonwealth ex rel. Woodruff v. Joyce</i> , 139 A. 742 (Pa. 1927).....	18, 19
<b>Statutes</b>	
16 P.S. § 102 .....	34
16 P.S. § 1401 .....	34
53 P.S. § 12199 .....	24
53 P.S. § 12199, <i>et seq.</i> .....	21, 23, 25
<b>Other Authorities</b>	
101 Pa. Code § 7.21 .....	9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15
Act of June 25, 1919, P.L. 581, No. 274 (June 25, 1919).....	24
An Act Providing for the Election of District Attorneys, P.L. 654, No. 385 (May 3, 1850).....	23
BLACK’S LAW DICTIONARY 44 (8th ed. 2004) .....	10
H.R. No. 240 .....	3, 4, 12
P. Mason, MANUAL OF LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES § 445(3) (1970).....	10

Pa. Const. of 1838, art. IV .....	4, 19
Pa. Const. art. II .....	4, 9, 10, 11, 15, 32, 39
Pa. Const. art. V .....	4, 32, 39
Pa. Const. art. VI.....	4, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 26, 27, 31, 35, 39
Pa. Const. art. IX.....	19, 23, 25
Pa. H.R. Rule 45.....	13
Pa. R.A.P. 1532.....	7
Pa. Sen. R. 12.....	12, 13
Sen. Res. 386.....	6
Sen. Res. 387.....	5
Sen. Res. 388.....	2, 6, 7

## INTRODUCTION

This application for summary relief seeks a declaration that the impeachment proceedings against District Attorney Larry Krasner, which commenced during the Two Hundred Sixth Pennsylvania General Assembly with the adoption of Amended Articles of Impeachment by the then-Republican controlled House on November 16, 2022, and the exhibition of those Articles to the Senate on November 30, 2022, are unlawful and may not proceed during the Two Hundred Seventh Pennsylvania General Assembly.

The impeachment proceedings against District Attorney Krasner are unlawful and may not proceed for three independent and compelling reasons.

First, the Amended Articles of Impeachment that were adopted during the Two Hundred *Sixth* General Assembly do not carry over to the (current) Two Hundred *Seventh* General Assembly. This ground is simple, straightforward and clear: the Pennsylvania Constitution, statutory law and precedent mandate this conclusion.

Second, District Attorney Krasner is not subject to impeachment by the General Assembly because the Pennsylvania Constitution does not authorize impeachment of the Philadelphia district attorney by the General Assembly. He is not a “civil officer” as the Pennsylvania Constitution uses that term but is instead a local officer.

Third, the Amended Articles of Impeachment do not allege any conduct that constitutes “any misbehavior in office,” which is the prerequisite for impeachment under the Pennsylvania Constitution.

Expedited briefing is requested because the Senate has already adopted a resolution, Senate Resolution No. 388 (SR 388), titled “A Resolution Directing a Writ of Impeachment Summons to be issued to the Honorable Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of Philadelphia,” that requires a Writ of Impeachment Summons to be issued “immediately” from the Senate to District Attorney Krasner, that commands District Attorney Krasner “to file one and only one Answer and any related pleading . . . to the Articles of Impeachment . . . by 12 noon on December 21, 2022,” and that commands District Attorney Krasner to “appear before the Senate of Pennsylvania . . . on January 18, 2023, at 11:30 a.m., unless otherwise directed by the Chair of the Impeachment Committee.” Senate Resolution No. 388, Printer’s No. 2023 (Nov. 30, 2022). On December 1, 2022, the Writ of Impeachment Summons was served on The Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office. In short, the Senate has already commenced (unlawful) impeachment proceedings against District Attorney Krasner.

## **STATEMENT OF UNDISPUTED FACTS**

1. On October 26, 2022 Rep. Martina White introduced House Resolution 240, a resolution “Impeaching Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of Philadelphia, for misbehavior in office; and providing for the appointment of trial managers.” *See* Exhibit A, House Resolution 240, Printer’s No. 3607, (“HR 240”) (Oct. 26, 2022).
2. HR 240 alleges two Articles of Impeachment against District Attorney Krasner.
3. The House did not vote on the two Articles of Impeachment in HR 240.
4. On November 16, 2022, Representative Torren Ecker sponsored Amendments to HR 240. The Amendments amend HR 240 by striking all of the lines on all of the pages in HR 240 with the exception of lines 1-3 on page 1 and inserting all of the lines on the pages in the Amended Articles. *See* Exhibit B, Amendments to HR 240 (Nov. 16, 2022).
5. On November 16, 2022, HR 240, As Amended, was introduced. *See* Exhibit C, House Resolution 240, Printer’s No. 3634, As Amended (“Amended Articles” or “Amended Articles of Impeachment”) (Nov. 16, 2022).

6. The Amended Articles of Impeachment contain seven articles of impeachment. *Id.* None of the seven articles alleges that District Attorney Krasner committed a criminal offense.

7. The seven Articles of Impeachment include:

- Article I: Misbehavior in Office In the Nature of Dereliction of Duty and Refusal to Enforce the Law
- Article II: Misbehavior in Office In the Nature of Obstruction of House Select Committee Investigation
- Article III: Misbehavior in Office In the Nature of Violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Code of Judicial Conduct; Specifically Rule 3.3 Candor Toward the Tribunal, Rule 8.4 Professional Misconduct, and Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct Impropriety and Appearance of Impropriety in the Matter of Robert Wharton v. Donald T. Vaughn
- Article IV: Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct; Specifically Rule 3.3 Candor Toward the Tribunal, Rule 8.4 Professional Misconduct, and Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct Impropriety and Appearance of Impropriety in the Matter of Commonwealth v. Pownall
- Article V: Misbehavior in Office In the Nature of Violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Code of Judicial Conduct; Specifically Rule 3.3 Candor to Tribunal, Rule 8.4 Professional Misconduct, and Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct Impropriety and Appearance of Impropriety In The matter In re: Conflicts of Interest of Philadelphia District Attorney's Office
- Article VI: Misbehavior in Office in Nature of Violation of Victims [sic] Rights

- Article VII: Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of the Constitution of Pennsylvania By Usurpation of the Legislative Function

8. On November 16, 2022, HR 240, as amended, passed the full House of Representatives by a vote of 107-85. All but one Republican voted in favor of HR 240. All Democrats voted against HR 240.

9. On November 18, 2022, in a press release, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Representative Bryan D. Cutler, announced that the House committee to “exhibit the articles of impeachment to the Senate, and manage the trial on behalf of the House” would consist of Respondents Rep. Craig Williams, Rep. Tim Bonner, and Rep. Jared Solomon.<sup>1</sup>

10. On November 29, 2022, the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 387, a resolution “Directing the House of Representatives to Exhibit the Articles of Impeachment.” *See* Exhibit D, Sen. Res. 387, Printer’s No. 2021 (“SR 387”), (Nov. 29, 2022). Under SR 387, the Senate “[r]esolved” that “the Secretary of the Senate inform the House of Representatives that the Senate will be ready to receive, at 10:30 a.m., the 30<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022, the managers appointed by the House of the purpose of exhibited Articles of Impeachment, agreeably to the notice communicated to the Senate.” *Id.*

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<sup>1</sup> Press Release, *Speaker Names Impeachment Managers for Krasner Trial*, (Nov. 18, 2022), located at: <https://www.repcutler.com/News/31561/Latest-News/Speaker-Names-Impeachment-Managers-for-Krasner-Trial>.

11. Also on November 29, 2022, the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 386, a resolution “Proposing special rules of practice and procedure in the Senate when sitting on impeachment trials.” *See* Exhibit E, Sen. Res. 386, Printer’s No. 2020 (“SR 386”), (Nov. 29, 2022). SR 386 provides, *inter alia*, that “the President pro tempore may appoint a committee of Senators . . . The functions of the committee are to receive evidence and take testimony at times and places determined by the committee . . . The committee shall report to the Senate in writing that it has completed receiving evidence and taking testimony, and the committee shall provide a summary of the evidence and testimony . . . [which] shall be received by the Senate . . .” *Id.* § 10. The “committee” referenced in Section 10 is Respondent Senate Impeachment Committee.

12. On November 30, 2022, the House Managers exhibited HR 240, as amended, to the Senate.

13. Also, on November 30, 2022, the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 388, a resolution “Directing a Writ of Impeachment Summons to be issued to the Honorable Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of Philadelphia.” *See* Exhibit F, Sen. Res. 388, Printer’s No. 2023 (“SR 388”), (Nov. 30, 2022). SR 388 provides that a Writ of Impeachment Summons be issued to District Attorney Krasner “immediately”, and served by December 7, 2022. *Id.* It further provides that the Writ of Impeachment Summons shall “order and command” that District

Attorney Krasner: (a) answer the Amended Articles by December 21, 2022; and (b) appear before the Senate on January 18, 2023, at 11:30 a.m., “to answer to the said Articles of Impeachment . . .” *Id.* at 1-2.

14. On November 30, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. the 206<sup>th</sup> General Assembly ended.

15. On December 1, 2022, a copy of a Precept to the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate and Writ of Impeachment Summons were delivered to The Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office. Both documents are dated November 30, 2022, and bear the signatures of Jacob D. Corman, III, the President Pro Tempore of the 206th General Assembly Senate. *See* Exhibit G, Precept to the Sergeant-At-Arms and Writ of Impeachment Summons, Nov. 30, 2022.

### **LEGAL STANDARD**

Rule 1532(b), Pennsylvania Rules of Appellate Procedure, states that “[a]t any time after the filing of a petition for review in an appellate or original jurisdiction matter the court may on application enter judgment if the right of the applicant thereto is clear.” Pa. R.A.P. 1532(b). Accordingly, “[a]n application for summary relief may be granted if a party’s right to judgment is clear and no material issues of fact are in dispute.” *Jubelirer v. Rendell*, 953 A.2d 514, 521 (Pa. 2008) (citations omitted). “For purposes of an application for summary relief, the record is the same as that for a summary judgment motion. The record includes

the pleadings and other documents of record, such as exhibits.” *Allen v.*

*Pennsylvania Bd. of Prob. & Parole*, 207 A.3d 981, 984 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2019)

(citations omitted).

## ARGUMENT

### **I. THE IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DISTRICT ATTORNEY LARRY KRASNER DO NOT CARRY OVER TO THE TWO HUNDRED SEVENTH PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

The Pennsylvania Constitution, state statutory law, case law in this jurisdiction, and Senate rules all mandate that the Senate is prohibited from proceeding with the Amended Articles of Impeachment after November 30, 2022, because they do not survive the adjournment of the legislative session. The law is clear: the business of the Two Hundred *Sixth* General Assembly (the 2021-2022 term), including the Amended Articles that were adopted by the House on November 16, 2022, and exhibited to the Senate on November 30, 2022, expired at the end of November 30, 2022. The next General Assembly – the Two Hundred *Seventh* – cannot pick up and continue where the prior General Assembly stopped. Rather, under settled law, the Amended Articles died with the end of the Two Hundred *Sixth* General Assembly on November 30, 2022.

**A. The Pennsylvania Constitution and the Pennsylvania Code Provide that the Business of the General Assembly Terminates at the End of the General Assembly's Second Regular Session.**

The starting point is the text of the Pennsylvania Constitution. It states, “Members of the General Assembly shall be chosen at the general election *every second year*,” that “Senators shall be elected for the term of four years and *Representatives for the term of two years*,” and that “[t]he General Assembly shall be a continuing body during the term for which its *Representatives* are elected.” Pa. Const. art. II, §§ 2, 3, 4 (emphasis added). Thus, under the Constitution, the General Assembly is a “continuing body” for only two years.

The Pennsylvania Code confirms that the General Assembly is a “continuing body” for only two years and that the two year period ends on November 30 of even-numbered years. It states: “The General Assembly is a continuing body during the term for which its Representatives are elected which begins on December 1 of each even-numbered year and ends at the expiration of November 30 of the next even-numbered year.” 101 Pa. Code § 7.21(a); *see also* Pa. Const. art. II, §§ 2, 4. It further explains that the two-year General Assembly consists of two one year sessions, with the one held in odd-numbered years “referred to as the first regular session” and the one held in even-numbered years “referred to as the second regular session.” 101 Pa. Code § 7.21(a). Importantly, it authorizes the General Assembly to carry over business only from the first regular session to the

second regular session. *See* 101 Pa. Code § 7.21(b) (“All matters pending before the General Assembly upon the adjournment sine die or expiration of a first regular session maintain their status and are pending before the second regular session.”).<sup>2</sup> It does not authorize the General Assembly to carry over business from the second session of one General Assembly to the first session of an entirely different General Assembly. *See id.*

Notably, no statute provides that matters pending at the end of the General Assembly’s second regular session maintain their status or remain pending at the start of the next General Assembly. *See* 101 Pa. Code § 7.21(b) (no provision regarding pending matters for new General Assembly.) And no statute could because it would conflict with the Constitutional mandate that the General Assembly is a “continuing body” only “during the term for which its Representatives are elected,” *i.e.*, from December 1 of one year until November 30 two years later. Pa. Const. art. II, §§ 2, 4.

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<sup>2</sup> The term ‘sine die’ means ‘without day,’ and a legislative body adjourns sine die when it adjourns ‘without appointing a day on which to appear or assemble again.’” *Creamer v. Twelve Common Pleas Judges*, 281 A.2d 57, 65 (Pa. 1971). An adjournment *sine die* “end[s] a deliberative assembly’s or court’s session without setting a time to reconvene.” *Scarnati v. Wolf*, 173 A.3d 1110, 1114 n.4 (Pa. 2017) (citing, e.g., BLACK’S LAW DICTIONARY 44 (8th ed. 2004)); *see also* P. Mason, MANUAL OF LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES § 445(3), at 301 (1970) (“A motion to adjourn sine die has the effect of closing the session and terminating all unfinished business before the House, and all legislation pending upon adjournment sine die expires with the session”).

Accordingly, it is clear from both the Constitution and Section 7.21 that pending matters do not “carry over” from one General Assembly to the next. *See also* Robert E. Woodside, PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTIONAL LAW 274-75 (1985) (“If the legislature adjourns *sine die* during the second annual session that terminates *all* business pending before it.”) (emphasis added).

Importantly, there is no impeachment exception to the mandate that pending matters do not carry over from one General Assembly to the next. There is no statute that establishes an impeachment exception. And the Constitution does not create one. The Constitution provides only that the House of Representatives has the sole *power* of impeachment and the Senate has the sole *power* to try impeachments. Pa. Const. article VI, §§ 4, 5. It does not say that the General Assembly’s exercise of its impeachment power creates an exception to the Constitutional provision that the General Assembly is a “continuing body” only “during the term for which its Representatives are elected,” *i.e.*, from December 1 of one year until November 30 two years later. Pa. Const. art. II, §§ 2, 4.

Here, the Two Hundred Sixth General Assembly’s business ended on November 30, 2022. That business included the adoption of the Amended Articles. Critically, now that November 30, 2022, has passed, the Amended

Articles have died.<sup>3</sup> The next General Assembly’s Senate – which formed on December 1, 2022 in the Two Hundred Seventh General Assembly – cannot take them up and conduct an impeachment trial. Put another way, the second regular session of the Two Hundred Sixth General Assembly expired on November 30, 2022. Because matters pending before the General Assembly do not “remain pending” after the expiration of the second regular session, the impeachment proceedings against District Attorney Krasner have ended and do not carry over to the Two Hundred Seventh General Assembly (the 2023-2024 term). 101 Pa. Code § 7.21(b).

**B. The Rules of the General Assembly and Pennsylvania Precedent Also Provide that the Business of the General Assembly Terminates at the End of the General Assembly’s Second Regular Session.**

Pennsylvania Senate Rule 12(j) states:

All bills, joint resolutions, *resolutions*, concurrent resolutions or *other matters* pending before the Senate upon the recess of a first regular session convening in an odd-numbered year shall maintain their status and be pending before a second regular session convening in an even-numbered year but not beyond adjournment sine die or November 30th of such year, whichever first occurs.

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<sup>3</sup> Resolution No. 240 was introduced and referred to the House Judiciary Committee on October 26, 2022. The resolution was reported as committed by the Judiciary Committee on November 15, 2022. The House of Representatives amended and adopted Resolution No. 240 on November 16, 2022. *See* H.R. No. 240, Pa. Two Hundred Sixth General Assembly - 2021-2022, available at <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/billinfo/billinfo.cfm?year=2021&sind=0&body=H&type=R&bn=240>.

*Id.* (emphasis added). Senate Rule 12(j) thus explicitly directs that all matters pending before the Senate upon the expiration of the second regular session, including any impeachment “resolution,” are no longer “pending” in the new session. In the same vein, Pennsylvania House of Representatives Rule 45(A) provides that the Government Oversight Committee:

[S]hall not continue to exist after sine die adjournment of the General Assembly. Investigation of any referred matter before the committee that has not been concluded or disposed of by sine die adjournment of the General Assembly shall cease on such date . . . [w]ithin 30 days following the reconstitution of the committee in the next succeeding legislative term, the committee shall review such materials and determine whether or not to proceed with a referred matter investigated by the former committee.

*Id.* Thus, the rules of both the Pennsylvania House and Senate align with 101 Pa. Code § 7.21(b): any matter—whether legislation, a committee, or, in this case, a resolution on impeachment—cannot carry over from one General Assembly to the next.

Pennsylvania case law also confirms that the impeachment proceedings against District Attorney Krasner do not carry from one General Assembly to the next. In *Brown v. Brancato*, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania ruled that a select committee established by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and any powers granted to that committee ended with adjournment. 184 A. 89, 93 (Pa.

1936) (“legislative action of the General Assembly, in virtue of the session which convened, as required by article II, section 3, ended with its adjournment”).

Similarly, in *Commonwealth v. Costello*, the court held that a committee established by the Pennsylvania Senate could not continue past adjournment.

*Commonwealth v. Costello*, No. 315, 1912 WL 3913 (Pa. Quar. Sess. Mar. 15, 1912) at \*\*6 (“When, however, the session of the legislature has finally adjourned and ended, as did the general assembly of Pennsylvania on May 25, 1911, this is equivalent to the prorogation of parliament. The functions of the legislature are then terminated. The conclusion of the session puts an end to all pending proceedings of a legislative character”) (citing Jefferson’s Manual at 183 (1812); Cushing’s Law and Practice of Legislative Assemblies, § 516).

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has specifically addressed the situation presented here where the House has completed its portion of a legislative business before adjournment, but the Senate has not completed its portion of that business. In *Frame v. Sutherland*, the Court stated the general principle that, upon adjournment, “unenacted bills pending at the end of a session expired, requiring reintroduction and repassage of the bill in the originating house in order to obtain consideration by the other house.” 327 A.2d 623, 627 (Pa. 1974).<sup>4</sup> Just as *Frame*

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<sup>4</sup> That particular statement is no longer applicable to the adjournment of *any* session because the Constitution now provides that the General Assembly is a “continuing body” for two

observed that the legislative process would have to begin anew after adjournment, with the House repassing the bill that it had already passed, so too here the expiration of the General Assembly requires that the House begin the impeachment process anew.<sup>5</sup>

In sum, Pennsylvania’s “General Assembly,” including both Senators and Representatives, is a “continuing body” only “during the term for which its Representatives are elected,” that is, “from December 1 of each even-numbered year” until “November 30 of the next even-numbered year.” 101 Pa. Code § 7.21; *see also* Pa. Const. art. II, §§ 2, 4; *Scarnati v. Wolf*, 135 A.3d 200, 213 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2015), *rev’d on other grounds*, 173 A.3d 1110 (Pa. 2017) (“The General Assembly is a continuing body during the term for which its

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years until a new election, but the principle remains fully applicable here where it is the *second* regular session, and thus the General Assembly itself, that expired on November 30, 2022.

<sup>5</sup> Respondents may argue that the issues raised in this action are non-justiciable and that the Court cannot stray into the prerogatives of the legislative branch. That would be incorrect. This Court and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court are fully authorized to interpret the Pennsylvania Constitution and the Pennsylvania Code to rule on the kinds of declaratory judgments that this application seeks. By way of example, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court addressed similar *sine die* issues. *See, e.g., Brown*, 184 A. 89; *Frame v. Sutherland*, 327 A.2d 623 (Pa. 1974). If these issues were not justiciable, the Supreme Court could not rule the way that it did in *Brown*, *Frame*, and other decisions cited in this Application. Moreover, District Attorney Krasner is not asking the Court to dictate or otherwise interfere with the terms or procedures of the impeachment proceedings, if they are permitted to go forward. *Cf. Larsen v. State of Pennsylvania*, 646 A.2d 694 (Pa. Commw. 1994) (rejecting Larsen’s request that the court “direct[] who shall try and how the [impeachment] trial shall be conducted . . . mandate[e] rulings on pre-trial motions and otherwise, and . . . prohibit[] any action by the Senate on the subject, pending final resolution of this case”). Rather, District Attorney Krasner is asking this Court to declare, based on settled Pennsylvania law, that the impeachment proceedings are unlawful.

representatives are elected. The term begins on December 1 of each even-numbered year and ends at the expiration of November 30 of the next even-numbered year.”) (internal quotation marks omitted). Just as the Two Hundred Sixth General Assembly ended on November 30, 2022, so did the Amended Articles of Impeachment. The law is that simple and that clear.<sup>6</sup>

**II. DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER IS NOT SUBJECT TO IMPEACHMENT BECAUSE THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTION DOES NOT AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO IMPEACH LOCALLY ELECTED OFFICIALS SUCH AS THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY.**

The General Assembly’s impeachment power comes from Article VI, Section 6 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, titled “Officers liable to impeachment,” which states that “[t]he Governor and all other civil officers shall be liable to impeachment for any misbehavior in office...” That provision does not apply to the Philadelphia District Attorney, a local official.

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<sup>6</sup> The fact that the U.S. Congress has allowed impeachment proceedings to carry over from one Congress to the next does not alter the analysis under Pennsylvania law. There are significant differences between federal and Pennsylvania law that make this occasional Congressional practice irrelevant to the impeachment of District Attorney Krasner. Fundamentally, federal law, unlike Pennsylvania law, does not address when matters carry over to a new session or to a new Congress. Moreover, unlike the Pennsylvania Senate, the U.S. Senate is a “continuing body” because two-thirds of U.S. Senators (more than a quorum) do not change at any election. *See* S. Rept. No. 100-542, *Carrying the Impeachment Proceedings Against Judge Alcee L. Hastings Over to the 101<sup>st</sup> Congress* (Sept. 22, 1988) at 10. (“The Senate has been viewed as a ‘continuing body’ in that at least two thirds of its members (more than a quorum) always held over from one Congress to another”).

**A. As a Local Official, District Attorney Krasner Is Not A “Civil Officer” Within The Meaning Of Article VI.**

The Philadelphia District Attorney is unquestionably a local official, not a state official. *See, e.g., Carter v. City of Philadelphia*, 181 F.3d 339, 350 (3d Cir. 1999) (“Consistent with its constitutional and statutory law, Pennsylvania’s case law defines district attorneys—Philadelphia District Attorneys in particular—as local, and expressly not state, officials.”). The text of the Pennsylvania Constitution makes clear that “civil officer” does not include local officials like Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner.

First, the only “civil officer” specifically referenced in Section 6 is the Governor, a statewide officeholder. Basic principles of statutory construction teach that the ensuing “catch-all” phrase of “other civil officers” is limited to similarly situated officeholders. *See Northway Vill. No. 3, Inc. v. Northway Props., Inc.*, 244 A.2d 47, 50 (Pa. 1968) (“The ancient maxim ‘noscitur a sociis’ summarizes the rule that the meaning of words may be indicated or controlled by those words with which they are associated. Words are known by the company they keep.”); *see also Burns v. Coyne*, 144 A. 667, 668 (Pa. 1928) (“What the words ‘or other creditors,’ following the word ‘judgment,’ really mean, is, other creditors of like rank; that is, lien creditors. This accords with the familiar rule of statutory construction that, where specific expressions are followed by those which

are general, the latter will be confined to things of the same class as the former.”) (ejusdem generis canon).

Second, Article VI, Section 6 specifies a remedy that is meaningful only for the holders of statewide office, not for local officials. It states that judgment in impeachment cases “shall not extend further than to removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit *under this Commonwealth.*” Pa. Const. art. VI, § 6 (emphasis added). Local officials do not hold an office “under this Commonwealth.” See *Emhardt v. Wilson*, 20 Pa. D. & C. 608, 609 (Ct. Com. Pl. 1934) (Philadelphia officer not an officer “under this Commonwealth” under Art. II, section 6) (citing *Commonwealth ex rel. Woodruff v. Joyce*, 139 A. 742, 742-43 (Pa. 1927) (a local office is not an office “under this Commonwealth”)). That is, the effect of a judgment of impeachment is to preclude a person from holding *statewide* office only. If local officers were meant to be encompassed within Article VI, section 6, then the Constitution surely would have provided for the remedy of disqualification from local office. Any argument that the Constitution authorizes impeachment of local officials for misbehavior in local office and then limits the disqualification remedy to holding statewide office is illogical.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> The impeachment provision of the Constitution of 1838 explicitly limited impeachment to statewide officers, reciting that “[t]he governor and all other civil officers *under this commonwealth* shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office; but judgment, in

Finally, the Constitution explicitly refers to local officers when it means to include them. For example, Article IX references “County officers” (Pa. Const. art. IX, § 4), and “officers of the City of Philadelphia.” (Pa. Const. art. IX, § 13(f)). Similarly, Article VII, Section 3 references “county, city, ward, borough, and township officers.” The Constitution’s omission of “local” or “city” officials in Article VI, Section 6, is further evidence that such officials are not subject to impeachment.

That local officials like Philadelphia District Attorney Krasner are not “civil officers” subject to impeachment under Article VI, Section 6 also finds support in both case law and legislative history. In *Burger v. Sch. Bd. of McGuffey Sch. Dist.*, 923 A.2d 1155 (Pa. 2007), Chief Justice Saylor noted that “*state-level* officials were almost exclusively in view when then-Section 4 of Article VI was framed.”

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such cases, shall not extend further than to remove from office and disqualification to hold any office . . . under this commonwealth . . .” See Pa. Const. of 1838, art. IV, § 3 (emphasis added). Because impeachment was limited to officers “under this commonwealth,” as a textual matter, it encompassed only statewide officers, not the District Attorney. See *Joyce*, 139 A. at 742-43.

Following the 1874 constitutional convention, without any debate, explanation, or vote of the delegates to explain the change, Article VI, Section 3 was modified and the italicized reference to “under this commonwealth” in the 1838 constitution was eliminated, although the identical reference in the disqualification clause remained. Because there was no debate and the Journals accompanying the constitution noted that the “old Constitution” was “retained” in this provision, it appears that the 1874 impeachment provision (which, in material part, exists today), preserved the meaning of the 1838 version and the changes were non-substantive. See 2 Journal of the Convention to Amend the Constitution of Pennsylvania, 1872, at 1303, 1320. That is, if the 1873 change was intended to substantively modify the 1837 provision, there would have been a similar change in the remedy clause and an explanation of why the change was made. There is no such explanation.

923 A.2d at 1167 (Saylor, J., concurring) (emphasis added). The four-Justice majority in *Burger* called Justice Saylor’s theory “cogent,” *id.* at 1161 n.6, but declined to otherwise address it because it was not raised by the parties.<sup>8</sup>

The debates and legislative history of Pennsylvania constitutional conventions confirm that the framers were concerned about officers holding statewide office, specifically judges, when devising the impeachment process.

Consider the following authorities:

- *Proceedings and Debates of the Convention of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Propose Amendments to the Constitution, Commenced and Held at Harrisburg, on the Second Day of May, 1837* (Harrisburg: Packer, Barrett and Parke, 1837) [hereinafter, “1837 Debates”]; vol. 1, p. 459 (emphasis added): “The article of impeachment, now properly under consideration, applies to ‘the Governor, and all other civil officers under this Commonwealth’ – persons holding offices during good behavior, as well as those holding for a term of years. **The question, so far as it has been argued at all, has been argued as respects judicial officers only; and perhaps properly. There has been no attempt to impeach any other officer under the present Constitution:** as to such it has been a useless provision: their short terms of office has kept them entirely under the control of the people. As to the judiciary, I confess I think it might be dispensed with altogether, as another part of the Constitution provides for the removal of ‘Judges and Justices.’ This is unnecessary as a remedy, or means for removal.”
- *1837 Debates*; vol. 1, p. 275: “It is said, the Governor, and all other civil officers under this Commonwealth, shall be liable to impeachment; but, sir, we do not say who those civil officers are. Are they to be understood as judges alone, or are they other officers than those of a judicial character? Is

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<sup>8</sup> Chief Justice Saylor distinguished prior decisions applying the removal provisions to municipal officers because those decisions did not address this distinction. *See id.* Because the parties did not raise the issue, the majority exercised judicial restraint and did not consider or decide it.

the Lieutenant Governor, an officer intended by some gentlemen, and very properly, to be created under the new Constitution, to be liable to impeachment? These questions cannot be answered, for the plain reason, that they relate to subjects not yet acted on by the Convention.”

- *Debates of the Convention to Amend the Constitution of Pennsylvania Convened at Harrisburg, November 12, 1872* (Harrisburg: Benjamin Singerly, 1873); vol. 2, p. 575: “By the constitution of the Senate and House, which I have not heard any one propose to change, the House has the sole power of impeachment, and the Senate to try and adjudge, not only the Governor, but all judicial officers[.]”

These statements during constitutional deliberations demonstrate what Justice Saylor found so compelling, and the majority “cogent,” in *Burger*: the framers’ focus was on *statewide* officials and judges. They were not concerned with local officers like the District Attorney of Philadelphia, and they evinced no intent to subject them to impeachment by the state legislature. Accordingly, the history of these provisions confirm the meaning of the text: the Philadelphia District Attorney is not a “civil officer” within the meaning of Article VI, Section 6.

**B. Impeachment Of Philadelphia Local Officials Is Constitutionally Delegated to Statutory Law Governing First Class Cities.**

The Pennsylvania Constitution specifically gives the power to impeach the Philadelphia District Attorney to Philadelphia officials. Article VI, Section 1, in conjunction with Article IX, Section 13, which was originally enacted as a 1951 amendment, delegate the power to impeach Philadelphia officials to a local process established under then-existing statutory law, namely, the First Class Cities

Government Law, 53 P.S. § 12199, *et seq.* That specific constitutional allocation makes clear that there is no authority to impeach Philadelphia officials under the general provisions of Article VI, Section 6.

*First*, Article VI, Section 1 states, “[a]ll officers, whose selection is not provided for in this Constitution, *shall* be elected or appointed *as may be directed by law.*” (emphases added.) As the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has concluded time and again, this provision commits the regulation of local officers to statute and confers on the legislature the power to establish the “conditions of tenure,” including impeachment and removal. *See Weiss v. Ziegler*, 193 A. 642, 644 (Pa. 1937); *Watson v. Pennsylvania Tpk. Comm'n*, 125 A.2d 354, 356 (Pa. 1956) (“It is therefore established in this State beyond respectable controversy that, where the legislature creates a public office, it may impose such terms and limitations with reference to the tenure or removal of an incumbent as it sees fit.”); *Marshall Impeachment Case*, 62 A.2d 30, 32 (Pa. 1948); *Marshall Impeachment Case*, 69 A.2d 619, 625 (Pa. 1949) (“*The method of removing the Receiver of Taxes of Philadelphia from office is provided for by statute, and this method was not abrogated by the Constitution of Pennsylvania of 1873.*”) (impeachment of Philadelphia officer) (emphasis added); *Burger*, 923 A.2d at 1163-64 (noting that “the constitutional power of removal must be read in conjunction with other constitutional provisions, a reading which makes clear that the General Assembly

may enact limitations on the constitutionally conferred power to remove a civil officer at least where the office at issue was created by the General Assembly . . . . . . . [T]his Court has consistently recognized that, when the General Assembly creates a public office, it may impose terms and limitations on the removal of the public officer so created.”<sup>9</sup>

*Second*, district attorneys are referenced in the Constitution, but only once, in the enumeration in Article IX, Section 4, of “[c]ounty officers.” Section 4 states that home rule jurisdictions like Philadelphia are excepted from its provisions that govern county government. Instead, the Constitution specifically authorizes home rule jurisdictions like Philadelphia to adopt their own rules regulating public officers, which include the Philadelphia district attorney. Namely, Article IX, Section 13 provides that “[i]n Philadelphia all county offices are hereby abolished, and the city shall henceforth perform all functions of county government within its area through officers selected *in such manner as may be provided by law.*” Pa. Const. art. IX, § 13(a) (emphasis added).

Relatedly, Article IX, Section 13(f) provides:

Upon adoption of this amendment all county officers shall become officers of the City of Philadelphia, and until the

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<sup>9</sup> The Office of the Philadelphia District Attorney was created by the General Assembly. That statute, P.L. 654, No. 385 (May 3, 1850), An Act Providing for the Election of District Attorneys, provided a statutory mechanism for removing the Philadelphia District Attorney, at Section 4. Section 4 was later repealed and is supplanted by the impeachment and removal provisions of the First Class Cities Government Law, 53 P.S. §§ 12199-12205.

General Assembly shall otherwise provide, shall continue to perform their duties and be elected, appointed, compensated and organized in such manner as may be provided by the provisions of this Constitution and **the laws of the Commonwealth in effect at the time this amendment becomes effective**, but such officers serving when this amendment becomes effective shall be permitted to complete their terms.

*Id.* § 13(f) (emphasis added).

Among the “laws of the Commonwealth in effect at the time this amendment becomes effective [1951]” was the First Class Cities Government Law, enacted in 1919. *See* Act of June 25, 1919, P.L. 581, No. 274 (June 25, 1919). (“For the better government of cities of the first class of this Commonwealth”). That law establishes the prerequisites for impeachment of municipal officers like the District Attorney. It provides:

Municipal officers shall be liable to impeachment, suspension, and removal from office, for any corrupt act or practice, malfeasance, mismanagement, mental incapacity, or incompetency for the proper performance of official duties, extortion, receiving any gift or present from any contractor or from any person seeking or engaged in any work for, or furnishing material to, the city, or from any incumbent or occupant of, or candidate or applicant for, any municipal office, and for willfully concealing any fraud committed against the city.

53 P.S. § 12199. Critically, the First Class Cities Government Law establishes a *local* procedure for impeachment proceedings, not impeachment by the House and trial by the Senate. It includes petitions by local electors, appointment of an investigating committee, and a trial over which the Court of Common Pleas

presides. *Id.* §§ 12200-12205. And that local procedure was blessed by the Constitution in 1951. *See* Pa. Const., art. IX, § 13(f).

These provisions mandate that the City of Philadelphia has the oversight over any impeachment and removal of a Philadelphia District Attorney, who is unquestionably a City officer within the meaning of Article IX. *See Chalfin v. Specter*, 233 A.2d 562, 565 (Pa. 1967) (“[T]he majority of this 7-Judge Court agree with me on this point and are convinced that under the Constitution of Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, the District Attorney of Philadelphia is a City officer and is subject to the Home Rule Charter.”) (Bell, C.J., concurring); *McMenamin v. Tartaglione*, No. 3713, 1991 WL 1011018 at \*142 (Pa. Com. Pl. Mar. 26, 1991) (“[T]his court definitively finds that the District Attorney of the City of Philadelphia is a ‘city officer’ for purposes of §10-107(5) of the Charter.”) (citing authorities), *aff’d*, 590 A.2d 802 (Pa. Commw. 1991), *aff’d without opinion*, 590 A.2d 753 (mem.) (Pa. 1991); *accord Carter*, 181 F.3d at 350 (“Consistent with its constitutional and statutory law, Pennsylvania’s case law defines district attorneys—Philadelphia District Attorneys in particular—as local, and expressly not state, officials.”).

As part of the Constitution’s express authorization of Philadelphia home rule, it committed the impeachment of Philadelphia’s local officers to the General Assembly’s statutes regulating Philadelphia officials. And that constitutional

action leaves no room for the operation of a completely separate impeachment process initiated by the House. Almost certainly, the framers of the 1951 Amendment understood that the Article VI, section 6, procedure did not apply to “local officers” to begin with (see section A, *supra*) and therefore they did not see any potential conflict. But even if one assumes that the more general provisions extend to “local officers,” and thus extended to Philadelphia officials prior to 1951, the 1951 Amendment must be understood as limiting that power going forward with respect to Philadelphia officials. *See Burger*, 923 A.2d at 1163-64 (“the General Assembly may enact limitations on the constitutionally conferred power to remove a civil officer at least where the office at issue was created by the General Assembly”). The General Assembly has spoken, enacting a statutory impeachment process applicable to Philadelphia’s officers. *See Marshall*, 62 A.2d at 33; *id.*, 69 A.2d at 625. These statutory procedures control any effort at impeaching the Philadelphia District Attorney.

### **III. DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER IS NOT SUBJECT TO IMPEACHMENT BECAUSE THE AMENDED ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT DO NOT ALLEGE CONDUCT THAT CONSTITUTES “ANY MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE.”**

The Amended Articles of Impeachment fail for yet a third independent reason: the Amended Articles do not allege conduct that constitutes “any misbehavior in office.” A “civil officer” may be impeached only for “any

misbehavior in office.” Pa. Const. art. VI, § 6. The Amended Articles, however, do not allege anything close to “misbehavior in office.”

**A. “Misbehavior In Office” Means Criminal Conduct, Including a Failure to Perform a Positive Ministerial Duty or the Performance of a Discretionary Duty with an Improper Motive.**

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has interpreted “misbehavior in office” to mean conduct that would amount to the common law criminal offense of “misbehavior in office.” *In re Braig*, 590 A.2d 284, 286 (Pa. 1991) (“In the several cases where interpretation of these provisions came before the appellate courts, it was uniformly understood that the reference to ‘misbehavior in office’ was to the criminal offense as defined at common law.”); *see also Commonwealth v. Davis*, 149 A. 176, 178 (Pa. 1930) (constitutional provision requiring removal “on conviction of misbehavior in office” to be interpreted “exactly the same way” as the criminal statute); *Commonwealth v. Shaver*, 3 Watts & Serg. 338 (Pa. 1842) (finding no basis to remove officer for “misbehavior in office” where “it is perfectly manifest that he has not even been charged with, much less convicted of it”).

Misbehavior in office requires a very high showing: a public official has engaged in “misbehavior in office” only if he “fail[ed] to perform a positive ministerial duty of the office or the performance of a discretionary duty with an improper or corrupt motive.” *Braig*, 590 A.2d at 286; *see also Commonwealth v.*

*Peoples*, 28 A.2d 792, 794 (Pa. 1942) (“The law is clear that misfeasance in office means either the breach of a positive statutory duty or the performance by a public official of a discretionary act with an improper or corrupt motive.”);

*Commonwealth v. Green*, 211 A.2d 5, 9 (Pa. Super. 1965) (“The common law crime of misconduct in office, variously called misbehavior, misfeasance or misdemeanor in office, means either the breach of a positive statutory duty or the performance by a public official of a discretionary act with an improper or corrupt motive.”).

Where, as here, “the nature of the duty is such as to permit the exercise of discretion, there must be present the additional element of an evil or corrupt design to warrant conviction [for misbehavior in office].” *Commonwealth v. Hubbs*, 8 A.2d 618, 620 (Pa. Super. 1939) (public officer that “negligently omitted and refused to cause [certain] laws . . . to be enforced” did not commit misbehavior in office due to “discretionary power and latitude in the performance of their duties”); *accord Braig*, 590 A.2d at 286 (“misbehavior in office” includes “the performance of a discretionary duty with an improper or corrupt motive”); *Commonwealth v. Steinberg*, 362 A.2d 379, 386 (Pa. Super. 1976) (“The element which distinguishes the negligent mishandling of the public’s business from unlawful conduct by a public officer in handling a discretionary matter is the existence of a corrupt motive.”) (corrupt motives include “obtain[ing] gain for himself or his political

party, or to bestow a gratuity upon a relative or a friend or a political ally at the expense of the Commonwealth”).<sup>10</sup>

The bar is especially high when it is applied to the actions of a district attorney because, as the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has held, the District Attorney is vested with “tremendous” “discretion” to make and implement his or her own policies and priorities. *See Commonwealth v. Clancy*, 192 A.3d 44, 53 (Pa. 2018) (a district attorney’s “discretion is tremendous,” and he or she “is “afforded such great deference that this Court and the Supreme Court of the United States seldom interfere with a prosecutor’s charging decision”); *Commonwealth ex rel. Specter v. Martin*, 232 A.2d 729, 736 (Pa. 1967) (“[I]n the performance of his duties, the law grants to the district attorney wide discretion in the exercise of which he acts in a judicial capacity.”). And, as a matter of law, the legislature may not interfere with District Attorney Krasner’s lawful exercise of those discretionary duties: a district attorney “must be allowed to carry out [his or her discretionary powers] without hind[er]ance from any source.” *See Mummau v. Ranck*, 531 F. Supp. 402, 405 (E.D. Pa.), *aff’d*, 687 F.2d 9 (3d Cir. 1982) (citing *Commonwealth*

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<sup>10</sup> Following the Supreme Court’s decision in *Braig*, Pennsylvania courts regularly hold that “misbehavior in office” under the Pennsylvania Constitution means the common law crime of that name. *See, e.g., In re Dalessandro*, 596 A.2d 798, 798 (Pa. 1991) (“Based on the analysis set out in [*Braig*], we hold that Dalessandro was not “convicted of misbehavior in office so as to require automatic forfeiture of office”) (internal quotations omitted); *In re Ballentine*, 86 A.3d 958, 971 (Pa. Ct. Jud. Disc. 2013) (quoting and adopting the *Braig* analysis of “misbehavior in office”); *In re Berkhimer*, 877 A.2d 579, 591 (Pa. Ct. Jud. Disc. 2005).

*ex rel. Spector v. Bauer*, 261 A.2d 573 (Pa. 1970)). Importantly, this discretion covers a very wide range of matters, including decisions about “the allocation of scarce resources and the decision to prosecute a particular individual and specific classes of crime,” *id.* at 405 (citing *United States v. Berrigan*, 482 F.2d 171 (3d Cir. 1973)).

The situations in which courts have found that a public officer engaged in “misbehavior in office” are those where the officer abused his or her station for personal gain. *See, e.g., In re Cain*, 590 A.2d 291, 292 (Pa. 1991) (judge who “accept[ed] money from an attorney in two separate cases in exchange for action in criminal cases in which the attorney represented the defendants” had committed misbehavior); *Commonwealth v. Davis*, 149 A. 176 (Pa. 1930) (mayor who unlawfully took fees and rewards by color of his office and failed to report money he received for election expenses committed misbehavior). *Cf. Dalessandro*, 596 A.2d at 798 (judge convicted of “two counts of attempted income tax evasion” under federal law did not commit misbehavior in office).

**B. The Amended Articles of Impeachment Do Not Allege Conduct that Constitutes “Any Misbehavior in Office”**

None of the Amended Articles of Impeachment alleges anything close to “misbehavior in office,” as courts have interpreted that phrase to mean. It is undisputed that the Amended Articles do not accuse District Attorney Krasner of

committing any criminal offense or of using the power of his office for pecuniary or personal gain.

Three of the Articles (Articles I, VII, and VI) simply attack District Attorney Krasner's prosecution policies, approach to criminal justice, and management of the DAO. Specifically, Article I criticizes District Attorney Krasner for implementing "progressive" trainings and prosecutorial policies as they relate to cash bail, immigration, cannabis, plea offers, and prostitution. Article VII similarly criticizes District Attorney Krasner policies as they relate to the DAO's prosecution of minor offenses, including prostitution, theft, and minor drug offenses. Article VI criticizes District Attorney Krasner for allegedly "failing to timely contact victims, deliberately misleading victims and or [sic] disregarding victim input and treating victims with contempt and disrespect." Exhibit B, Amended Articles at 16.

Each of these Articles consists of criticism of how District Attorney Krasner exercised his prosecutorial discretion, advanced his priorities, and managed the office. But, as discussed above, that *criticism* is no ground for impeachment because District Attorney Krasner's exercise of prosecutorial discretion and advancement of his priorities cannot, as a matter of law, amount to "any misbehavior in office." See *Clancy*, 192 A.3d at 53; *Martin*, 232 A.2d at 736; *Mummau*, 531 F. Supp. at 405 (citing *Bauer*, 261 A.2d 573).

Article II is also legally deficient. It accuses District Attorney Krasner of “Obstruction” of a House Select Committee Investigation due to his alleged non-compliance with a subpoena duces tecum. That plainly fails because a district attorney’s compliance or noncompliance with a subpoena arising out of a House investigation is not part of a district attorney’s positive duties or discretionary authority.<sup>11</sup>

Also, as Article II acknowledges, District Attorney Krasner responded to the subpoena by first communicating his objections to the subpoena to the Select Committee’s counsel and then by filing an action in Commonwealth Court on September 2, 2022, to quash the subpoena. This is no obstruction; it is what the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has advised. The Supreme Court has squarely held that a recipient of a legislative subpoena may seek relief in court. *See Commonwealth ex rel. Carcaci v. Brandamore*, 327 A.2d 1, 5 n.4 (Pa. 1974) (“Had [the plaintiff] wished to challenge the constitutionality of the committee’s investigation without risking a contempt citation before the bar of the House, judicial recourse would have been available to him. Injunctive relief from the activities of the committee could have been sought in a court of equity.”).

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<sup>11</sup> Similarly, testifying before a special master is not a positive duty of the district attorney, and therefore the Amended Articles’ allegations that District Attorney Krasner omitted facts while giving testimony is not actionable. *See* Exhibit B, Am. Articles at Art. V.

Articles III and IV fail as a matter of law because they hinge on the alleged misconduct of other lawyers in the DAO, not on the conduct of District Attorney Krasner. A public official may be found guilty of the common law crime of misbehavior in office only if the officer personally engaged in the wrongful conduct. *See Commonwealth v. Bready*, 286 A.2d 654, 657 n.4 (Pa. Super. 1971). It is not enough to allege that an official's subordinates committed misbehavior in office. As the court in *Bready* explained, there is no liability for misconduct that "was the product of mistake or inadvertence" by the officer, even for "intentional or inadvertent acts of his employees." *See id.* (emphasis added).

Articles III, IV, and V also fail as a matter of law because (legislative) impeachment may not be used to regulate or punish the conduct of lawyers alleged to have violated the rules of professional responsibility. *See Am. Articles* at 11, 14, 15. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has "exclusive and inherent authority" to "govern the conduct of attorneys practicing law within the Commonwealth." *Beyers v. Richmond*, 937 A.2d 1082, 1089 (Pa. 2007) (citing *Lloyd v. Fishinger*, 605 A.2d 1193, 1196 (Pa. 1992)) ("Any legislative enactment encroaching upon this Court's exclusive power to regulate attorney conduct would be unconstitutional."). The Supreme Court has observed that such an "encroachment upon the judicial power by the legislature is offensive to the fundamental scheme of our government." *Beyers*, 937 A.2d at 1090-91 (citing *Commonwealth v. Sutley*,

378 A.2d 780, 783 (Pa. 1977)). As the Court has explained, its “exclusive authority in this area is founded on the separation of powers of our Commonwealth’s government,” and “[t]he General Assembly has no authority under the Pennsylvania Constitution to regulate the conduct of lawyers in the practice of law.” *Id.*

Additionally, the Canon of Judicial Conduct is not applicable to the conduct alleged in Articles III, IV, and V. First, 16 P.S. § 1401(o) – the statute cited in the Amended Articles – does not apply to district attorneys in counties of the first class like the county of Philadelphia. Section 1401 is contained in Pennsylvania Statutes Title 16, “Counties,” at Chapter 1, which is titled “The County Code.” The County Code states that “Except incidentally, as in sections 108, 201, 210, 211, 401 and 1401 or as provided in section 1770.12, Article XII-B and Article XXX, this act does not apply to counties of the first or second classes.” 16 P.S. § 102(a). Thus, only where the County Code “incidentally” applies to counties of the first class would it apply to the Philadelphia District Attorney. Critically, Section 1401(o) does not “incidentally” apply to the District Attorney of Philadelphia.

Second, although the Code of Judicial Conduct applies to a district attorney’s conduct “insofar as such canons apply to salaries, full-time duties and conflicts of interest” (16 P.S. § 1401(o)), Articles III and IV do not concern “salaries, full-time duties and conflicts of interest.” Instead, they involve the duty

of candor (R.P.C. 3.3), unsubstantiated and generalized professional misconduct allegations (R.P.C. 8.4), and vague allegations of impropriety or the appearance of impropriety (Pa. Code Judicial Conduct, Canon 2) (stating, “A judge shall perform the duties of judicial office impartially, competently, and diligently”).

Third, the exclusive remedy for a violation of the Canon of Judicial Conduct is discipline by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court, not impeachment. Section 1401(o) states: “[a]ny complaint by a citizen of the county that a full-time district attorney may be in violation of this section shall be made to the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.” *Id.* Only upon a determination by the Supreme Court, which has not occurred, could the matter be referred to the House. *See id.*<sup>12</sup>

Finally, Article VI of the Amended Articles also fails as a matter of law because it is hopelessly conclusory and vague. It alleges, without identifying any supporting facts, that District Attorney Krasner violated federal and state victims’ rights statutes by “failing to timely contact victims, deliberately misleading victims and or disregarding victims input and treating victims with contempt and disrespect.” Exhibit B, Am. Articles at 15-16. Such vague and conclusory

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<sup>12</sup> The Supreme Court’s holding in *Commonwealth v. Robinson*, 204 A.3d 326, 347-49 (Pa. 2018), limits the application of judicial canons to cases of “actual impropriety [of representation] of sufficient severity to have tainted the proceedings” or “a personal interest in the outcome of the case,” neither of which is alleged in the Articles.

assertions are plainly inadequate. To satisfy Due Process, the Articles must allege a sufficient basis for impeachment. *See In re Scott*, 596 A.2d 150, 151 (Pa. 1991) (“The sparse record presented to this Court [*i.e.*, an information] is inadequate to sustain a determination that the Respondent has been convicted of ‘misbehavior in office by a court.’”); *see also Hubbs*, 8 A.2d 618, 620 (Pa. Super. 1939) (indictment for misbehavior in office properly quashed because it failed to sufficiently allege the basis for the crime).

In sum, the Amended Articles fail because they do not allege that District Attorney Krasner committed “any misbehavior in office.”

**C. The Amended Articles’ Reliance on Dicta from *Larsen v. Senate of Pennsylvania* Is Misplaced.**

Implicitly conceding that the Amended Articles do not meet the high threshold for “misbehavior in office” established by the Supreme Court in *Braig*, the Amended Articles cite the Commonwealth Court’s opinion in *Larsen*, 646 A.2d 694 (Pa. Commw. 1994), in support of the position that “misbehavior in office” does not mean “the breach of a positive statutory duty or the performance by the public official of a discretionary act with an improper or corrupt motive.” *See* Exhibit B, Amended Articles at 1. (The Amended Articles do not define “misbehavior in office,” instead treating this fundamental constitutional limitation as imposing no constraint at all on the House’s power.) The Amended Articles are

dead wrong in arguing that *Larsen* establishes that the allegations of the Amended Articles state a basis for “misbehavior in office.”

To start, *Larsen* involved a former Supreme Court justice who was impeached *after* he was removed from office by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court for a violation of the Code of Judicial Discipline and *after* he was convicted by a court of two felony counts of criminal conspiracy under the Controlled Substances Act. 646 A.2d at 697. Justice Larsen had petitioned the court to prevent his impeachment on the principal grounds that he had already been removed from office. *Id.* at 698. Thus, he had endeavored to use his criminal conviction and removal from office as a sword against impeachment. Here, the District Attorney of Philadelphia has been impeached by a lame-duck House based primarily on policy disagreements, which could not be more different than the criminal conduct at issue in *Larsen*.

Moreover, the court in *Larsen* determined that Larsen’s alleged misconduct in the Articles of Impeachment *did* “involve breaches of ‘positive statutory duty’ and also ‘performance of discretionary act with improper or corrupt motive.’” *See id.* at 702. That is not surprising given the very serious charges against him. Specifically, Larsen was accused of: (1) “track[ing] petitions for allowance of appeal to the Supreme Court, for special handling, because friends and political contributors were involved as attorneys”; (2) “engag[ing] in ex parte

communications and exchanges with a friend and political supporter who was the attorney in two cases . . . pending before the Supreme Court”; (3) “ma[king] false statements to the grand jury”; (4) “communicat[ing] ex parte with a trial judge to influence the outcome of a trial court proceeding”; and (5) “ma[king] false statements under oath” in litigation. *Id.* Indeed, as the court recognized, the allegations against Larsen (unlike the allegations against District Attorney Krasner) would meet any definition of “misbehavior in office,” including one that required a “corrupt motive” or even criminal conduct.

The Amended Articles latch onto the *Larsen* court’s dicta that Larsen’s “strict definition of impeachable offense . . . finds no support in judicial precedents.” *Id.* But that dicta is incorrect because the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in *Braig* expressly held three years earlier that “misbehavior in office” refers to the “common law crime consisting of the failure to perform a positive ministerial duty of the office or the performance of a discretionary duty with an improper or corrupt motive.” 590 A.2d at 286. Also, *Larsen* does not state some more expansive definition of “misbehavior in office” that the Amended Articles can meet. Indeed, as noted, the *Larsen* articles of impeachment assert conduct far, far worse than that in the Amended Articles here – and conduct plainly in violation of the common law crime of misbehavior in office.

The final reason *Larsen* does not support the Amended Articles here is that *Braig* is controlling. Although it involved removal of a judge under Article V, Section 18(l) of the Pennsylvania Constitution rather than impeachment under Article VI, Section 6, both provisions expressly refer to “misbehavior in office.” *Braig*’s definition therefore applies to both provisions. *See Cavanaugh v. Davis*, 440 A.2d 1380, 1381 (Pa. 1982) (“Because the language of the two constitutional provisions at issue relates to the same subject matter . . . the two provisions must be construed together.”); *In re Humane Soc’y of the Harrisburg Area, Inc.*, 92 A.3d 1264, 1271 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2014) (holding that decisions “defining an infamous crime in Article II, Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution equally applies to the same term in Article VI, Section 7”); *see also Braig*, 590 A.2d at 287 (“Based on our reading of all the cases, we must conclude that the language of Article V, Section 18(l), *like the identical language* of present Article VI, Section 7, refers to the offense of “misbehavior in office” as it was defined at common law.”) (emphasis added).

Thus, *Braig*’s definition of “misbehavior in office” is controlling.

**CONCLUSION**

For the reasons stated above, Petitioner respectfully requests that the Court grant the application for summary relief and enter a declaration in the form accompanying this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

HANGLEY ARONCHICK SEGAL  
PUDLIN & SCHILLER



Dated: December 2, 2022

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CERTIFICATION REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS POLICY**

In compliance with Pennsylvania Rule of Appellate Procedure 127, I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Dated: December 2, 2022

*/s/ John S. Summers*

\_\_\_\_\_  
John S. Summers

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, John S. Summers, hereby certify that on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2022, I am serving the foregoing Application for Summary Relief and Expedited Briefing upon the following persons by certified mail, which service satisfies the requirements of Pa. R. App. P. 121:

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Harrisburg, PA 17120-3039  
Room: 292 Main Capitol

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*/s/ John S. Summers*

John S. Summers

# **EXHIBIT A**

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 240 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY WHITE, OCTOBER 26, 2022

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, OCTOBER 26, 2022

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A RESOLUTION

1 Impeaching Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of  
2 Philadelphia, for misbehavior in office; and providing for  
3 the appointment of trial managers.

4 WHEREAS, Lawrence Samuel Krasner was elected to the position  
5 of District Attorney of Philadelphia on November 7, 2017, and  
6 re-elected to the position on November 2, 2021, pursuant to  
7 section 4 of Article IX of the Constitution of Pennsylvania; and

8 WHEREAS, Upon assuming office, District Attorney Krasner  
9 terminated more than 30 assistant district attorneys (ADA) from  
10 employment with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office; and

11 WHEREAS, Many of these terminated assistant district  
12 attorneys were senior-level staffers in supervisory roles who  
13 possessed significant prosecutorial experience and knowledge of  
14 criminal procedure; and

15 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner replaced this vast  
16 institutional knowledge in the Philadelphia District Attorney's  
17 Office with attorneys who lacked any meaningful experience in  
18 prosecuting criminal cases, some of whom only recently graduated  
19 from law school; and

1       WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner subsequently withdrew the  
2 office from membership in the Pennsylvania District Attorneys  
3 Association (PDAA) because, he asserted, PDAA supported  
4 regressive and punitive policies; and

5       WHEREAS, In withdrawing from PDAA, District Attorney Krasner  
6 denied the attorneys in his office the ability to participate in  
7 the various professional development and training programs  
8 provided by PDAA through its educational institute; and

9       WHEREAS, Rather than offering traditional prosecutorial  
10 training on such subjects as prosecutorial ethics, human  
11 trafficking, witness examination, trial advocacy, trial  
12 management and achieving justice for domestic violence and  
13 sexual assault victims, District Attorney Krasner offered  
14 attorneys seminars, including "A New Vision for Criminal Justice  
15 in Philadelphia," "Deportation: The Unforeseen Consequences of  
16 Prosecution in our Immigrant Community," and "Philadelphia and  
17 Safe Injection: Harm Reduction as Public Policy"; and

18       WHEREAS, The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office  
19 eventually returned to more traditional prosecutorial training,  
20 however, the office continued to focus on issues that promote  
21 District Attorney Krasner's progressive philosophies rather than  
22 how to effectively prosecute a criminal case; and

23       WHEREAS, Upon being elected to office, District Attorney  
24 Krasner established a series of office policies with the  
25 purported purpose to "end mass incarceration and bring balance  
26 back to sentencing," and later adopted a series of policies  
27 related to certain crimes or classes of people; and

28       WHEREAS, These policies include directives not to charge sex  
29 workers or individuals for certain classes of crimes such as  
30 prostitution or possession of marijuana and marijuana-related

1 drug paraphernalia; and

2 WHEREAS, These new policies identified a series of offenses  
3 for which the gradation may be reduced with the purpose of  
4 "reduc[ing] pre-trial incarceration rates as no bail is required  
5 and the shorter time required for hearings expedites Municipal  
6 Court and Common Pleas dockets," and requiring disposition of  
7 retail theft cases unless the value of the item stolen exceeds  
8 \$500 or where the defendant has an extensive history of theft  
9 convictions; and

10 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner instituted policies to  
11 make plea offers below the bottom end of the mitigated range  
12 under the Sentencing Guidelines from the Pennsylvania Sentencing  
13 Commission and seek greater use of house arrest, probation and  
14 alternative sentencing when the sentencing guidelines indicate a  
15 range of incarceration below 24 months; and

16 WHEREAS, In February 2018, District Attorney Krasner  
17 established a policy that his office "will ordinarily no longer  
18 ask for cash bail for . . . misdemeanors and felonies" listed in  
19 the policy, because "The cash bail system is rife with injustice  
20 and exacerbates socio-economic and racial inequalities,  
21 disproportionately penalizing the poor and people of color"; and

22 WHEREAS, In November 2018, District Attorney Krasner adopted  
23 a policy in which a criminal defendant's immigration status  
24 should be considered in the plea-bargaining process, effectively  
25 providing that where an immigration consequence is detected pre-  
26 trial or with respect to a sentencing recommendation, counsel  
27 will advise if an offer can be made to avoid the consequence;  
28 and

29 WHEREAS, Other policies that District Attorney Krasner  
30 directed were as follows:

1           (1) Assistant district attorneys may not proceed in  
2 cases against defendants driving under the influence of  
3 cannabis when the defendants blood "contains inactive  
4 metabolite (11-Nor-9-Carboxy-Delta-9-THC) or 4 or fewer  
5 ng/mls of psycho-active THC" and that "if the defense  
6 presents evidence that calls impairment into question, an ADA  
7 may consider dropping the charges against the defendant."

8           (2) The District Attorney's Office "will only oppose  
9 motions for redactions or expungements in limited  
10 circumstances" and sets forth various scenarios in which the  
11 Office will agree to, seek or not oppose the expungement of a  
12 defendant's criminal history.

13           (3) The District Attorney's Office directed plea offers  
14 and sentencing recommendations:

15           (i) for felonies, "aimed at an office-wide average  
16 period of total supervision among cases of around 18  
17 months or less of total supervision, with a ceiling of 3  
18 years of total supervision or less on each case";

19           (ii) for misdemeanors, aimed at an office-wide  
20 average of "6 months or less of total supervision, with a  
21 ceiling of 1 year";

22           (iii) for all matters, for "concurrent sentences";

23 and

24           (iv) for cases involving incarceration, "for a  
25 period of parole that is no longer than the period of  
26 incarceration";

27 and

28           WHEREAS, Nearly all of District Attorney Krasner's policies  
29 "create a presumption" for ADAs to follow and require approval  
30 from Krasner himself or a first assistant district attorney for

1 deviations from the policies; and

2 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner, in an April 2021 report  
3 published by the DAO titled "Ending Mass Supervision: Evaluating  
4 Reforms," wrote in his opening letter: "I am proud of the work  
5 this office has done to make Philadelphians, particularly  
6 Philadelphians of Color, freer from unnecessary government  
7 intrusion, while keeping our communities safe"; and

8 WHEREAS, In reality, the policies and practices of the  
9 Philadelphia District Attorney's Office instituted under the  
10 direction of District Attorney Krasner have led to catastrophic  
11 consequences for the people of the City of Philadelphia; and

12 WHEREAS, According to the City Controller, spikes in gun  
13 violence and homicides have dramatically impacted historically  
14 disadvantaged neighborhoods, and those neighborhoods are  
15 "primarily low-income with predominately black or African  
16 American residents"; and

17 WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Police Department (PPD) reports  
18 that the number of homicide victims has increased every year  
19 since 2016, more than doubling from 2016 to 2021, with a year-  
20 over-year increase of 40% between 2019 and 2020; and

21 WHEREAS, As of October 16, 2022, there have already been 430  
22 homicides in the City of Philadelphia in 2022; and

23 WHEREAS, As of October 17, 2022, reported trends gathered  
24 from the PPD's "incident" data, which tracks the reporting of  
25 all crimes in addition to homicides, shows a 12% increase in all  
26 reported offenses, a 6% increase in violent offenses and a 21%  
27 increase in property offenses; and

28 WHEREAS, While incidents of violent crime are increasing,  
29 prosecution of crime by the Philadelphia District Attorney's  
30 Office has decreased during this same period; and

1       WHEREAS, In 2016, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office  
2 reported that only 30% of "all offenses" resulted in a dismissal  
3 or withdrawal, but that number spiked to 50% in 2019, 54% in  
4 2020, 67% in 2021 and 65% to date in 2022; and

5       WHEREAS, A similar trend is evident when filtering the data  
6 for violent crimes, where, in 2016, the withdrawal and dismissed  
7 violent crime cases accounted for 48% of all violent crime case  
8 outcomes, but that percentage increased to 60% in 2019, to 68%  
9 in 2020, to 70% in 2021 and to 66% in 2022 to date; and

10       WHEREAS, Data from the Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission  
11 relating to violations of the Uniform Firearms Act (VUFA)  
12 evidences a similar jarring trend; and

13       WHEREAS, The Sentencing Commission reports that guilty  
14 dispositions in the City of Philadelphia declined from 88% in  
15 2015 to 66% in 2020, compared to a decline from 84% to 72% in  
16 counties of the second class, with the driver of the decrease  
17 being nolle pros dispositions; and

18       WHEREAS, As compared to the Statewide data and other county  
19 classes, the percent of guilty verdicts has decreased  
20 significantly, while the percent of nolle prossed cases has  
21 increased in the City of Philadelphia; and

22       WHEREAS, Studies by the Delaware Valley Intelligence Center  
23 (DVIC) attempted to provide "an explanation for the increase in  
24 homicides and shootings in an effort to begin a conversation to  
25 address the challenge at a strategic level," significantly, the  
26 report notes:

27       "The rate of prosecution dismissal and withdrawal has been  
28 increase [sic] substantially since 2015 under DA [Seth]  
29 Williams, and has continued to increase after DA Krasner took  
30 office. Furthermore, a closer examination of these dropped cases

1 indicates that more cases are dismissed/withdrawn at the  
2 preliminary hearing state [sic] under DA Krasner than the actual  
3 trial state []. This implies that, even when criminals are  
4 caught with a gun, they are swiftly finding out they may not  
5 receive as significant a consequence as they had historically.  
6 Notably, the likelihood of being arrested is low to begin with.  
7 This means that, criminals know that their likelihood of getting  
8 caught with a gun is slim and, even if they get caught, they  
9 feel that they can leave without severe (or any) consequences.";  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The DVIC conducted a "cursory examination" of  
12 dismissed/withdrawn cases in 2018/2019 and "found 6 offenders  
13 whose cases were dismissed (VUFA former convict charge) and got  
14 later involved in shootings . . . 2 of these shootings were  
15 fatal and 4 out of these 6 offenders were gang members"; and

16 WHEREAS, The DVIC studied the prosecution declination for  
17 narcotics, retail theft and prostitution arrests from 2016 to  
18 2018, and concluded in its key findings that the percentage of  
19 all declinations, not just narcotics, prostitution and retail  
20 theft, increased "especially in 2018" to more than 7%, when it  
21 had been just 2% or less between 2007 and 2015; and

22 WHEREAS, In September 2020, the Philadelphia City Council  
23 authorized the Committee on Public Safety and the Special  
24 Committee on Gun Violence Prevention to study gun violence in  
25 the city. This study involved a collaboration between the  
26 Controller's Office, Defender Association, Department of Public  
27 Health, District Attorney's Office, First Judicial District,  
28 Managing Director's Office, Pennsylvania Attorney General and  
29 PPD. The published results, called the "100 Shooting Review  
30 Committee Report," discusses trends and general findings

1 regarding shootings in the City of Philadelphia; and

2 WHEREAS, The published results showed the following:

3 (1) The clearance rate (i.e., when an arrest was made or  
4 a suspect that could not be arrested was identified) for  
5 fatal shootings in 2020 was 37% and the rate for nonfatal  
6 shootings was 18%.

7 (2) There has been a "marked increase" in the number of  
8 people arrested for illegal gun possession without the  
9 accusation of an additional offense, including a doubling in  
10 arrests for illegal possession of a firearm without a license  
11 since 2018.

12 (3) The initial and final bail amounts set by courts in  
13 illegal possession of firearms cases declined between 2015  
14 and 2019 and increased in 2020 and 2021.

15 (4) Conviction rates in shooting cases declined between  
16 2016 and 2020 from 96% to 80% in fatal shootings and from 69%  
17 to 64% in nonfatal shootings.

18 (5) There is a long-term trend of a reduction in  
19 conviction rates for illegal gun possession cases, dropping  
20 from 65% in 2015 to 45% in 2020;

21 and

22 WHEREAS, In August 2022, the Philadelphia Police Commissioner  
23 indicated that her department is short-staffed by approximately  
24 20%, or 1,300 officers, due to low morale, politics, increased  
25 scrutiny and "uniquely stringent hiring requirements" during a  
26 nationwide shortage; and

27 WHEREAS, Commissioner Danielle Outlaw stated, "The truth is  
28 the homicides are not happening in a vacuum - there are those  
29 who are determined to attack and kill their victims. While we  
30 are making constant adjustments to mitigate this sickening

1 reality, our officers, simply put, just can't keep up by being  
2 everywhere at all times."; and

3 WHEREAS, While the PPD may arrest a suspect for the  
4 commission of a crime, the Philadelphia District Attorney's  
5 Office is one of the few district attorney's offices in this  
6 Commonwealth that reserves unto itself the authority to charge a  
7 person for a criminal act; and

8 WHEREAS, In October 2022, following yet another act of  
9 violence against police in the City of Philadelphia, Police  
10 Commissioner Danielle Outlaw issued the following statement:

11 "We are tired of arresting the same suspects over and over  
12 again, only to see them right back out on the street to continue  
13 and sometimes escalate their criminal ways. We are tired of  
14 having to send our officers into harm's way to serve warrants on  
15 suspects who have no business being on the street in the first  
16 place.

17 No - not everyone needs to be in jail. But when we repeatedly  
18 see the extensive criminal histories of those we arrest for  
19 violent crime, the question needs to be asked as to why they  
20 were yet again back on the street and terrorizing our  
21 communities.

22 I am beyond disgusted by this violence. Our entire department  
23 is sickened by what is happening to the people that live, work,  
24 and visit our city. Residents are tired of it. Business owners  
25 are tired of it. Our children are tired of it.

26 We are long past 'enough is enough.'";  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Acts of violence, and particularly violent crimes  
29 committed with firearms, have exacted a heavy toll on victims  
30 and their families, with countless lives unnecessarily lost or

1 irretrievably broken, due to the increase of violent crime in  
2 the City of Philadelphia; and

3 WHEREAS, In his special concurrence in *Commonwealth v.*  
4 *Pownall*, Justice Dougherty highlighted what he feared to be an  
5 effort by the District Attorney's Office to deprive certain  
6 defendants of a fair and speedy trial; and

7 WHEREAS, Following the June 2017 incident in which former  
8 Philadelphia police officer Ryan Pownall shot and killed David  
9 Jones, the District Attorney's Office submitted the matter to an  
10 investigative grand jury; and

11 WHEREAS, The investigating grand jury issued a presentment  
12 recommending that Pownall be charged with criminal homicide,  
13 possession of an instrument of crime and recklessly endangering  
14 another person; and

15 WHEREAS, During trial, the prosecutor filed a motion in  
16 limine to preclude the standard peace officer justification  
17 defense instruction, based on the assertion that the  
18 instruction, which largely tracked language of statute, violated  
19 Fourth Amendment prohibition against unreasonable search and  
20 seizure; and

21 WHEREAS, The motion was denied and the prosecution appealed  
22 to the Superior Court, which quashed the appeal as unauthorized.  
23 The Supreme Court granted the prosecutor's request for allowance  
24 of appeal; and

25 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court ultimately denied the appeal, but  
26 the special concurrence filed by Justice Dougherty illuminated  
27 startling behavior by the District Attorney's Office; and

28 WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty held that the District Attorney's  
29 Office's actions during grand jury process "implicate[] a  
30 potential abuse" and stated that "the presentment in this case

1 is perhaps best characterized as a 'foul blow.'" He referred to  
2 the grand jury presentment, authored by the District Attorney's  
3 Office, as a "gratuitous narrative"; and

4 WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty also recognized that any abuse of  
5 the grand jury could have been remedied by "Statutory safeguards  
6 embedded in the process," such as a preliminary hearing. He went  
7 on to say "What is troubling is the DAO's effort to ensure that  
8 would not occur," i.e., their filing of a motion to bypass the  
9 preliminary hearing; and

10 WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty found it "inexplicable" that, in  
11 presenting a bypass motion to the Court of Common Pleas, the  
12 District Attorney's Office failed to highlight the Investigating  
13 Grand Jury Act Section 4551(e), which directs that a defendant  
14 "shall" be entitled to a preliminary hearing. He emphasized that  
15 the District Attorney's Office "appear[ed] to have known [about  
16 that requirement] at the time it filed its motion."; and

17 WHEREAS, As it related to the prosecutor's motion in limine  
18 and interlocutory appeal, Justice Dougherty observed that the  
19 District Attorney's Office's motion "presented only half the  
20 relevant picture." He went on to say that "this type of advocacy  
21 would be worrisome coming from any litigant," but coming from a  
22 prosecutor, "is even more concerning, particularly in light of  
23 the motion's timing . . .". He cited directly to Pennsylvania  
24 Rule of Professional Conduct 3.3 regarding candor to the  
25 tribunal; and

26 WHEREAS, Further referencing ethical concerns, Justice  
27 Dougherty found that the timing of the motion in limine, "[w]hen  
28 combined with the other tactics highlighted throughout this  
29 concurrence," could lead to the conclusion that the decision to  
30 take "an unauthorized interlocutory appeal was intended to

1 deprive [Mr. Pownall] of a fair and speedy trial."; and

2 WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty went on to say:

3 Now, for the first time before this Court, the DAO finally  
4 admits its true intent in all this was simply to use Pownall's  
5 case as a vehicle to force judicial determination on 'whether  
6 Section 508(a)(1) is facially unconstitutional.' DAO's Reply  
7 Brief at 1; see *id.* at 6 (asserting Section 508's applicability  
8 to [Pownall] is not the subject of this appeal"). What's more,  
9 despite having assured the trial court it was not trying 'to bar  
10 [Pownall] from a defense[.]' N.T. 11/25/2019 at 8, the DAO now  
11 boldly asserts it would be appropriate for this Court to rewrite  
12 the law and retroactively apply it to Pownall's case because he  
13 supposedly 'had fair notice of his inability to rely on this  
14 unconstitutional defense[.]' DAO's Brief at 10.;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty concluded, "Little that has  
17 happened in this case up to this point reflects procedural  
18 justice. On the contrary, the DAO's prosecution of Pownall  
19 appears to be "driven by a win-at-all-cost office culture" that  
20 treats police officers differently than other criminal  
21 defendants. DAO CONVICTION INTEGRITY UNIT REPORT, OVERTURNING  
22 CONVICTIONS - AND AN ERA 2 (June 15, 2021) available at  
23 [tinyurl.com/CIU report](http://tinyurl.com/CIU_report) (last visited July 19, 2022). This is the  
24 antithesis of what the law expects of a prosecutor."; and

25 WHEREAS, On remand, Common Pleas Court Judge McDermott said  
26 that there were "so many things wrong" with the District  
27 Attorney's Office's instructions to the investigating grand jury  
28 that it warranted dismissing all charges against Mr. Pownall;  
29 and

30 WHEREAS, After hearing testimony from the assistant district

1 attorneys who handled the grand jury and preparation of the  
2 presentment, Judge McDermott concluded that the District  
3 Attorney's Office failed to provide the legal instructions to  
4 the grand jurors on the definitions for homicide and information  
5 regarding the use-of-force defense; and

6 WHEREAS, In her October 17, 2022, Statement of Findings of  
7 Fact and Conclusions of Law, Judge McDermott stated, "The  
8 Commonwealth made an intentional, deliberate choice not to  
9 inform the grand jurors about the justification defense under  
10 Section 508. While [the ADA] was aware of Section 508 and its  
11 applicability to the Defendant's case at the time of the Grand  
12 Jury proceedings, she decided not to advise the Grand Jury about  
13 Section 508 after consulting with other, more senior Assistant  
14 District Attorneys."; and

15 WHEREAS, As it related to Pownall's right to a preliminary  
16 hearing, Judge McDermott wrote:

17 In its Motion to bypass the preliminary hearing, the  
18 Commonwealth demonstrated a lack of candor to the Court by  
19 misstating the law and providing Judge Coleman with incorrect  
20 case law.

21 \* \* \*

22 The Commonwealth was also disingenuous with the Court  
23 when it asserted that it had good cause to bypass the  
24 preliminary hearing under Pa.R.Crim.P. 565(a) because of the  
25 complexity of the case, the large number of witnesses the  
26 Commonwealth would have to call, the expense, and the delay  
27 caused by a preliminary hearing. As a preliminary hearing was  
28 not held in this case, the Defendant's due process rights  
29 were violated and the Defendant suffered prejudice.;

30 and

1       WHEREAS, Judge McDermott told the District Attorney's Office  
2 that if defense counsel had made the decisions that the District  
3 Attorney's Office made, she would "declare them incompetent.";   
4 and

5       WHEREAS, The District Attorney's Office's own expert report  
6 from Gregory A. Warren, Ed.D., of American Law Enforcement  
7 Training and Consulting concluded that, given all the facts  
8 presented to him, Officer Pownall's "use of deadly force in this  
9 case was justified."; and

10       WHEREAS, This expert report was withheld from Pownall by the  
11 District Attorney's Office; and

12       WHEREAS, In the Federal habeas corpus proceeding in *Robert*  
13 *Wharton v. Donald T. Vaughn*, Federal District Court Judge  
14 Goldberg issued a memorandum order admonishing and sanctioning  
15 the District Attorney's Office; and

16       WHEREAS, Robert Wharton was convicted of murdering the  
17 parents of survivor Lisa Hart-Newman, who was seven months old  
18 at the time and was left to freeze to death with her deceased  
19 parents by Mr. Wharton; and

20       WHEREAS, After his conviction, Wharton pursued a death  
21 penalty habeas petition in the Federal district court; and

22       WHEREAS, The District Attorney's Office under prior  
23 administrations had opposed this petition; and

24       WHEREAS, In 2019, District Attorney Krasner's administration  
25 filed a "Notice of Concession of Penalty Phase Relief," stating  
26 that it would not seek a new death sentence, and, based on that  
27 sentencing relief, the litigation and appeals could end; and

28       WHEREAS, The concession noted only that the decision to  
29 concede was made "[f]ollowing review of this case by the Capital  
30 Case Review Committee of the Philadelphia [District Attorney's

1 Office], communication with the victims' family, and notice to  
2 [Wharton's] counsel."; and

3 WHEREAS, Judge Goldberg undertook an independent analysis of  
4 the merits of the claim and invited the Pennsylvania Office  
5 Attorney General (OAG) to file an amicus brief in the case; and

6 WHEREAS, In its amicus, the OAG submitted additional facts  
7 that the District Attorney's Office had not disclosed, including  
8 evidence of prison misconducts, attempted escapes and Department  
9 of Corrections concerns regarding "assaultiveness" and "escape"  
10 by Mr. Wharton; and

11 WHEREAS, The OAG concluded that "given the facts of this  
12 investigation and aggravating sentencing factors present in this  
13 case, Wharton could not establish a reasonable probability that  
14 the outcome of his penalty phase death sentence would have been  
15 different if the jury had heard evidence of his alleged  
16 'positive' prison adjustment."; and

17 WHEREAS, The OAG further determined that members of the  
18 family, including victim Ms. Hart-Newman, were not contacted and  
19 that they opposed the concession by the District Attorney's  
20 Office; and

21 WHEREAS, After an evidentiary hearing, Judge Goldberg held as  
22 follows:

23 (1) The District Attorney's Office failed to advise the  
24 court of significant anti-mitigation evidence, including that  
25 Mr. Wharton had made an escape attempt at a court appearance.

26 (2) Two of the office's supervisors violated Federal  
27 Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b)(3) "based upon that Office's  
28 representations to this Court that lacked evidentiary support  
29 and were not in any way formed after 'an inquiry reasonable  
30 under the circumstances.'"

1 (3) Representations of communication with the victims'  
2 family were "misleading," "false," and "yet another  
3 representation to the Court made after an inquiry that was  
4 not reasonable under the circumstances."

5 (4) The Law Division Supervisor, Assistant Supervisor  
6 and District Attorney's Office violated Rule 11(b)(1), and  
7 concluding that the violation was "sufficiently 'egregious'  
8 and 'exceptional' under the circumstances to warrant  
9 sanctions,";

10 and

11 WHEREAS, Judge Goldberg imposed nonmonetary sanctions on the  
12 District Attorney's Office, requiring that separate written  
13 apologies be sent to the victim, Lisa Hart-Newman, and the  
14 victim's family members; and

15 WHEREAS, Given the testimony of the two Law Division  
16 supervisors that District Attorney Krasner approved and  
17 implemented internal procedures that created the need for this  
18 sanction, and that the District Attorney had the sole, ultimate  
19 authority to direct that the misleading Notice of Concession be  
20 filed, therefore "the apologies shall come from the District  
21 Attorney, Lawrence Krasner, personally."; and

22 WHEREAS, House Resolution 216 of 2022 established the House  
23 Select Committee to Restore Law and Order pursuant to Rule 51 of  
24 the General Operating Rules of the House; and

25 WHEREAS, The select committee is authorized and empowered "to  
26 investigate, review and make finding and recommendations  
27 concerning risking rates of crime, law enforcement and the  
28 enforcement of crime victim rights," in the City of  
29 Philadelphia; and

30 WHEREAS, House Resolution 216 further charges the select

1 committee to make findings and recommendations, including, but  
2 not limited to, the following:

3 (1) Determinations regarding the performance of public  
4 officials empowered to enforce the law in the City of  
5 Philadelphia, including the district attorney, and  
6 recommendations for removal from office or other appropriate  
7 discipline, including impeachment.

8 (2) Legislation or other legislative action relating to  
9 policing, prosecution, sentencing and any other aspect of law  
10 enforcement.

11 (3) Legislation or other legislative action relating to  
12 ensuring the protection, enforcement and delivery of  
13 appropriate services and compensation to crime victims.

14 (4) Legislation or other legislative action relating to  
15 ensuring the appropriate expenditure of public funds intended  
16 for the purpose of law enforcement, prosecutions or to  
17 benefit crime victims.

18 (5) Other legislative action as the select committee  
19 finds necessary to ensure appropriate enforcement of law and  
20 order in the City of Philadelphia;

21 and

22 WHEREAS, In pursuit of these obligations, the resolution  
23 empowers the select committee chair to, among other things,  
24 "send for individuals and papers and subpoena witnesses,  
25 documents, including electronically stored information, and any  
26 other materials under the hand and seal of the chair."; and

27 WHEREAS, The chair issued subpoenas to a number of  
28 Philadelphia municipal offices, including the Controller, the  
29 Mayor, the Police Department, the Sheriff's Office, the  
30 Treasurer and the District Attorney's Office; and

1       WHEREAS, The subpoenas sought nonprivileged records necessary  
2 to fulfill the select committee's obligations to the House of  
3 Representatives pursuant to House Resolution 216; and

4       WHEREAS, While other municipal offices worked cooperatively  
5 with the select committee to respond to the subpoenas issued to  
6 them, District Attorney Krasner and his office chose instead to  
7 obstruct the select committee's work at every turn; and

8       WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner and his office asserted  
9 that the select committee was illegitimate and that its  
10 subpoenas served "no valid legislative purpose, violating the  
11 separation of powers, invading legal privileges, and seeking to  
12 deny the constitutional rights of Philadelphia's citizens,  
13 especially their democratic right to vote and choose their local  
14 leaders"; and

15       WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner asserted various claims  
16 that held no basis in fact or law, including the following:

17           (1) District Attorneys are not subject to impeachment.

18           (2) Impeaching the District Attorney violates the  
19 constitutional rights of the people who voted for him.

20           (3) The District Attorney committed no wrong, and  
21 therefore was not required to comply with the committee  
22 chair's subpoena.

23           (4) Impeachment of a public official requires a  
24 conviction for a criminal act;

25 and

26       WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner and his Office refused to  
27 search for or produce any documents in response to the subpoena;  
28 and

29       WHEREAS, Despite multiple attempts by counsel to the select  
30 committee chair to bring District Attorney Krasner and his

1 office into compliance with the subpoenas, explaining on  
2 multiple occasions that the select committee was seeking  
3 nonprivileged records and, as it related to any record for which  
4 the District Attorney believed were privileged, the District  
5 Attorney should follow common practice in responding to a  
6 subpoena by providing a privilege log to identify those records  
7 for which the District Attorney asserts a privilege; and

8       WHEREAS, On September 12, 2022, after multiple exchanges  
9 between counsel and a Request to Show Cause why the District  
10 Attorney should not be held in contempt by the House, the select  
11 committee issued an interim report pursuant to Rule 51 of the  
12 General Operating Rules of the House of Representatives,  
13 notifying the House of District Attorney Krasner's refusal to  
14 comply with the subpoena and recommending that the House  
15 consider contempt proceedings; and

16       WHEREAS, The House of Representatives adopted House  
17 Resolution 227 on September 13, 2022, resolving that the House  
18 hold District Attorney Krasner in contempt; and

19       WHEREAS, House Resolution 227 was adopted by a bipartisan  
20 vote of 162 to 38; and

21       WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner filed an action in  
22 Commonwealth Court on September 2, 2022, in which he raised the  
23 same arguments that fail to have any meaningful basis in law or  
24 fact; and

25       WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner and his office have since  
26 feigned partial compliance with the subpoena, providing several  
27 public-facing records obtained without the need to engage in any  
28 legitimate effort to search for the records; and

29       WHEREAS, The select committee chair invited District Attorney  
30 Krasner to testify before the select committee in executive

1 session on October 21, 2022; and

2 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner refused to testify in  
3 executive session, demanding a public hearing instead; and

4 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner then published a press  
5 release which was misleading at best, mischaracterizing the  
6 invitation to Krasner to testify in yet another moment of  
7 grandstanding; and

8 WHEREAS, Given the District Attorney's rejection of the  
9 invitation to testify in executive session, the select committee  
10 was compelled to cancel the hearing; and

11 WHEREAS, Throughout the select committee's efforts to satisfy  
12 its charge under House Resolution 216, District Attorney Krasner  
13 steadfastly insisted that the select committee somehow had the  
14 power to impeach him; and

15 WHEREAS, Only the House of Representatives, as a body, has  
16 the power of impeachment; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of  
18 Philadelphia, be impeached for misbehavior in office and that  
19 the following Articles of Impeachment be exhibited to the  
20 Senate:

21 ARTICLE I

22 In its 1994 opinion in *Larsen v. Senate of Pennsylvania*, the  
23 Commonwealth Court spoke to the meaning of the current language  
24 "any misbehavior in office."

25 Justice Larsen argued that the applicable standard of  
26 "misbehavior in office" was nothing more than a codification of  
27 the common law offense of misconduct in office, meaning "the  
28 breach of a positive statutory duty or the performance by a  
29 public official of a discretionary act with an improper or  
30 corrupt motive."

1 In its opinion, the Commonwealth Court held that even if the  
2 strict definition espoused by Larsen were the appropriate rule,  
3 Larsen's conduct still met that heavy burden. More importantly,  
4 however, the court said that this "strict definition . . . finds  
5 no support in judicial precedents." In other words, there is no  
6 precedent that the current language is so constrained. The use  
7 of the word "any" necessarily implied a broad construction.

8 The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office's stated mission  
9 is to provide a voice for victims of crime and protect the  
10 community through zealous, ethical and effective investigations  
11 and prosecutions. District Attorney Krasner, by and through his  
12 failed policies and procedures, and throughout the discharge of  
13 his duties as Philadelphia's chief law enforcement officer, has  
14 been derelict in his obligations to the victims of crime, the  
15 people of the City of Philadelphia and of this Commonwealth.

16 Under District Attorney Krasner's administration, and as  
17 detailed herein, his lack of proper leadership serves as a  
18 direct and proximate cause of the crisis currently facing the  
19 City of Philadelphia. These policies have eviscerated the  
20 District Attorney's Office's ability to adequately enforce the  
21 laws of this Commonwealth; endangered the health, welfare and  
22 safety of more than 1.5 million Pennsylvanians that reside in  
23 Philadelphia and the tens of millions of Americans who visit the  
24 City every year; and, have brought the Office of District  
25 Attorney into disrepute.

26 WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is  
27 guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office  
28 and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under  
29 this Commonwealth.

30

ARTICLE II

1 District Attorney Krasner has, at every turn, obstructed the  
2 efforts of the House Select Committee on Restoring Law and  
3 Order. He has consistently raised specious claims without a good  
4 faith basis in law or fact. Even after the House of  
5 Representatives resolved to hold him in contempt, District  
6 Attorney Krasner's efforts to comply with subpoenas issued by  
7 the select committee chair fall far short of what could be  
8 described as a reasonable good faith effort.

9 WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is  
10 guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office  
11 and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under  
12 this Commonwealth.

13 The House of Representatives hereby reserves to itself the  
14 right and ability to exhibit at any time after adoption of this  
15 resolution further or more detailed Articles of Impeachment  
16 against District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner, to reply to  
17 any answers that District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner may  
18 make to any Articles of Impeachment which are exhibited and to  
19 offer proof at trial in the Senate in support of each and every  
20 Article of Impeachment which shall be exhibited by them.

21 Upon the articles of impeachment against Lawrence Samuel  
22 Krasner, Philadelphia District Attorney, being signed by the  
23 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Speaker shall  
24 appoint a committee of three members, two from the majority  
25 party and one from the minority party to exhibit the same to the  
26 Senate, and on behalf of the House of Representatives to manage  
27 the trial thereof.

# **EXHIBIT B**

## AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 240

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE ECKER

Printer's No. 3607

1 Amend Resolution, page 1, lines 4 through 19; pages 2 through  
2 21, lines 1 through 30; page 22, lines 1 through 27; by striking  
3 out all of said lines on said pages and inserting

4 WHEREAS, Lawrence Samuel Krasner was elected to the position  
5 of District Attorney of Philadelphia on November 7, 2017, and  
6 re-elected to the position on November 2, 2021, pursuant to  
7 section 4 of Article IX of the Constitution of Pennsylvania; and

8 WHEREAS, Pursuant to section 4 of Article VI of the  
9 Constitution of Pennsylvania, only the House of Representatives,  
10 as a body, has the power of impeachment; and

11 WHEREAS, Pursuant to section 6 of Article VI of the  
12 Constitution of Pennsylvania, civil officers like District  
13 Attorney Krasner may be subject to impeachment by the House of  
14 Representatives for "any misbehavior in office"; and

15 WHEREAS, In its 1994 opinion in *Larsen v. Senate of*  
16 *Pennsylvania*, the Commonwealth Court spoke to the meaning of the  
17 language "any misbehavior in office" in section 6 of Article VI  
18 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania; and

19 WHEREAS, Justice Larsen argued that the applicable standard  
20 of "misbehavior in office" was nothing more than a codification  
21 of the common law offense of misconduct in office, meaning "the  
22 breach of a positive statutory duty or the performance by a  
23 public official of a discretionary act with an improper or  
24 corrupt motive"; and

25 WHEREAS, In its opinion, the Commonwealth Court held that  
26 even if the strict definition espoused by Larsen were the  
27 appropriate rule, Larsen's conduct still met that heavy burden.  
28 More importantly, however, the court said that this "strict  
29 definition...finds no support in judicial precedents." Stated  
30 differently, there is no precedent that the current language is  
31 so constrained; and

32 WHEREAS, The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office's stated  
33 mission and statutory purpose is, among other things, to provide  
34 a voice for victims of crime, protect the community through  
35 zealous, ethical and effective investigations and prosecutions,  
36 and to uphold and prosecute violations of the laws of this  
37 Commonwealth and the provisions of Philadelphia's Home Rule

1 Charter; and

2 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner, by and through his failed  
3 policies and procedures, and throughout the discharge of his  
4 duties as Philadelphia's chief law enforcement officer, has been  
5 derelict in his obligations to the victims of crime, the people  
6 of the City of Philadelphia and of this Commonwealth and has  
7 failed to uphold his oath of office; and

8 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner is bound by the Rules of  
9 Professional Conduct adopted by the Supreme Court, which set  
10 forth the minimal ethical requirements for all attorneys  
11 licensed to practice law in this Commonwealth, as well as the  
12 Code of Judicial Conduct, which is applicable to all district  
13 attorneys in this Commonwealth. 16 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 1401(o) ("A  
14 district attorney shall be subject to the Rules of Professional  
15 Conduct and the canons of ethics as applied to judges in the  
16 courts of common pleas of this Commonwealth ..."); and

17 WHEREAS, There have been multiple incidents of District  
18 Attorney Krasner exhibiting unethical conduct by lacking candor  
19 to the Courts of this Commonwealth in violation of Rule of  
20 Professional Conduct 3.3, committing professional misconduct in  
21 violation of Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4 and engaging in  
22 impropriety and or appearances of impropriety in violation of  
23 Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct; and

24 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner has been in office since  
25 January 2018. Under District Attorney Krasner's administration,  
26 and as detailed herein, the city has descended into an  
27 unprecedented crisis of lawlessness. By way of example only,  
28 there were 562 murders in 2021, the most in the 340-year history  
29 of the city. Under District Attorney Krasner, murders and  
30 violence occur in every part of the city at every hour of the  
31 day. Shootings on public transportation, in populated  
32 neighborhoods with families and children, near schools and in  
33 the center city business district have now become frequent and  
34 routine. Open air drug markets have become ubiquitous. He has  
35 decriminalized prostitution effectively destroying programs  
36 designed to rescue women from addiction and human trafficking.  
37 District Attorney Krasner has decriminalized retail theft  
38 resulting in numerous businesses leaving the city. He has  
39 released criminals back on to the street who go on to commit  
40 even more heinous crimes of murder, rape and robbery against the  
41 people of Philadelphia, the overwhelming majority of whom are  
42 African American. This crisis of crime and violence is a direct  
43 result of District Attorney Krasner's incompetence, ideological  
44 rigidity and refusal to perform the duties he swore to carry out  
45 when he became District Attorney. He has deliberately  
46 eviscerated the District Attorney's Office's ability to  
47 adequately enforce the laws of this Commonwealth; endangered the  
48 health, welfare and safety of more than 1.5 million  
49 Pennsylvanians that reside in Philadelphia and the tens of  
50 millions of Americans who visit the city every year; and, his  
51 conduct has brought the Office of District Attorney and the

1 justice system itself into disrepute; therefore be it  
2 RESOLVED, That Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of  
3 Philadelphia, be impeached for misbehavior in office and that  
4 the following Articles of Impeachment be exhibited to the Senate  
5 pursuant to section 5 of Article VI of the Constitution of  
6 Pennsylvania:

7 ARTICLE I:

8 Misbehavior in Office In the Nature of Dereliction  
9 of Duty and Refusal to Enforce the Law

10 Upon assuming office, District Attorney Krasner terminated  
11 more than 30 assistant district attorneys (ADA) from employment  
12 with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. Many of these  
13 terminated assistant district attorneys were senior-level  
14 staffers in supervisory roles who possessed significant  
15 prosecutorial experience and knowledge of criminal procedure.  
16 District Attorney Krasner replaced this vast institutional  
17 knowledge in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office with  
18 attorneys who lacked any meaningful experience in prosecuting  
19 criminal cases, some of whom only recently graduated from law  
20 school.

21 District Attorney Krasner subsequently withdrew the office  
22 from membership in the Pennsylvania District Attorneys  
23 Association (PDAA) because, he asserted, PDAA supported  
24 regressive and punitive policies. In withdrawing from PDAA,  
25 District Attorney Krasner denied the attorneys in his office the  
26 ability to participate in the various professional development  
27 and training programs provided by PDAA through its educational  
28 institute.

29 Rather than offering traditional prosecutorial training on  
30 such subjects as prosecutorial ethics, human trafficking,  
31 witness examination, trial advocacy, trial management and  
32 achieving justice for domestic violence and sexual assault  
33 victims, District Attorney Krasner offered attorneys seminars,  
34 including "A New Vision for Criminal Justice in Philadelphia,"  
35 "Deportation: The Unforeseen Consequences of Prosecution in our  
36 Immigrant Community," and "Philadelphia and Safe Injection: Harm  
37 Reduction as Public Policy." The Philadelphia District  
38 Attorney's Office eventually returned to more traditional  
39 prosecutorial training, however, the office continued to focus  
40 on issues that promote District Attorney Krasner's radically  
41 progressive philosophies rather than how to effectively  
42 prosecute a criminal case.

43 Upon being elected to office, District Attorney Krasner  
44 established a series of office policies with the purported  
45 purpose to "end mass incarceration and bring balance back to  
46 sentencing," and later adopted a series of policies related to  
47 certain crimes or classes of people. These policies include  
48 directives not to charge sex workers or individuals for certain  
49 classes of crimes such as prostitution or possession of  
50 marijuana and marijuana-related drug paraphernalia.

51 These new policies identified a series of offenses for which

1 the gradation may be reduced with the purpose of "reduc[ing]  
2 pre-trial incarceration rates as no bail is required and the  
3 shorter time required for hearings expedites Municipal Court and  
4 Common Pleas dockets," and requiring disposition of retail theft  
5 cases unless the value of the item stolen exceeds \$500 or where  
6 the defendant has an extensive history of theft convictions.

7 District Attorney Krasner instituted policies to make plea  
8 offers below the bottom end of the mitigated range under the  
9 Sentencing Guidelines from the Pennsylvania Sentencing  
10 Commission and seek greater use of house arrest, probation and  
11 alternative sentencing when the sentencing guidelines indicate a  
12 range of incarceration of less than 24 months.

13 In February 2018, District Attorney Krasner established a  
14 policy that his office "will ordinarily no longer ask for cash  
15 bail for...misdemeanors and felonies" listed in the policy,  
16 because "[T]he cash bail system is rife with injustice and  
17 exacerbates socio-economic and racial inequalities,  
18 disproportionately penalizing the poor and people of color."

19 In November 2018, District Attorney Krasner adopted a policy  
20 in which a criminal defendant's immigration status should be  
21 considered in the plea-bargaining process, effectively providing  
22 that if an immigration consequence is detected pre-trial or with  
23 respect to a sentencing recommendation, counsel will advise if  
24 an offer can be made to avoid the consequence.

25 Other policies that District Attorney Krasner directed were  
26 as follows:

27 (1) Assistant district attorneys may not proceed in  
28 cases against defendants driving under the influence of  
29 cannabis when the defendants' blood "contains inactive  
30 metabolite (11-Nor-9-Carboxy-Delta-9-THC) or 4 or fewer  
31 ng/mls of psycho-active THC" and that "if the defense  
32 presents evidence that calls impairment into question, an ADA  
33 may consider dropping the charges against the defendant."

34 (2) The District Attorney's Office "will only oppose  
35 motions for redactions or expungements in limited  
36 circumstances" and sets forth various scenarios in which the  
37 office will agree to, seek or not oppose the expungement of a  
38 defendant's criminal history.

39 (3) The District Attorney's Office directed plea offers  
40 and sentencing recommendations:

41 (i) for felonies, "aimed at an office-wide average  
42 period of total supervision among cases of around 18  
43 months or less of total supervision, with a ceiling of 3  
44 years of total supervision or less on each case";

45 (ii) for misdemeanors, aimed at an office-wide  
46 average of "6 months or less of total supervision, with a  
47 ceiling of 1 year";

48 (iii) for all matters, for "concurrent sentences";  
49 and

50 (iv) for cases involving incarceration, "for a  
51 period of parole that is no longer than the period of

1 incarceration."

2 Nearly all of District Attorney Krasner's policies "create a  
3 presumption" for ADAs to follow and require approval from  
4 District Attorney Krasner himself or a first assistant district  
5 attorney for deviations from the policies.

6 District Attorney Krasner, in an April 2021 report published  
7 by the District Attorney's Office (DAO) titled "Ending Mass  
8 Supervision: Evaluating Reforms," wrote in his opening letter:

9 "I am proud of the work this office has done to make

10 Philadelphians, particularly Philadelphians of Color, freer from  
11 unnecessary government intrusion, while keeping our communities  
12 safe." In reality, the policies and practices of the  
13 Philadelphia District Attorney's Office instituted under the  
14 direction of District Attorney Krasner have led to catastrophic  
15 consequences for the people of the City of Philadelphia.

16 According to the City Controller, spikes in gun violence and  
17 homicides have dramatically impacted historically disadvantaged  
18 neighborhoods, and those neighborhoods are "primarily low-income  
19 with predominately black or African American residents." The  
20 Philadelphia Police Department (PPD) reports that the number of  
21 homicide victims has increased every year since 2016, more than  
22 doubling from 2016 to 2021, with a year-over-year increase of  
23 40% between 2019 and 2020. As of October 16, 2022, there have  
24 already been 430 homicides in the City of Philadelphia in 2022.  
25 As of October 17, 2022, reported trends gathered from the PPD's  
26 "incident" data, which tracks the reporting of all crimes in  
27 addition to homicides, shows a 12% increase in all reported  
28 offenses, a 6% increase in violent offenses and a 21% increase  
29 in property offenses.

30 While incidents of violent crime are increasing, prosecution  
31 of crime by the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office has  
32 decreased during this same period. In 2016, the Philadelphia  
33 District Attorney's Office reported that only 30% of "all  
34 offenses" resulted in a dismissal or withdrawal, but that number  
35 spiked to 50% in 2019, 54% in 2020, 67% in 2021 and 65% to date  
36 in 2022.

37 A similar trend is evident when filtering the data for  
38 violent crimes, where, in 2016, the withdrawal and dismissed  
39 violent crime cases accounted for 48% of all violent crime case  
40 outcomes, but that percentage increased to 60% in 2019, to 68%  
41 in 2020, to 70% in 2021 and to 66% in 2022 to date. Data from  
42 the Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission relating to violations of  
43 the Uniform Firearms Act (VUFA) evidences a similar jarring  
44 trend. The Sentencing Commission reports that guilty  
45 dispositions in the City of Philadelphia declined from 88% in  
46 2015 to 66% in 2020, compared to a decline from 84% to 72% in  
47 counties of the second class, with the driver of the decrease  
48 being nolle pros dispositions. As compared to the Statewide data  
49 and other county classes, in the City of Philadelphia the  
50 percent of guilty verdicts has decreased significantly, while  
51 the percent of nolle prossed cases has increased.

1 Studies by the Delaware Valley Intelligence Center (DVIC)  
2 attempted to provide "an explanation for the increase in  
3 homicides and shootings in an effort to begin a conversation to  
4 address the challenge at a strategic level," and, significantly,  
5 the report notes:

6 "The rate of prosecution dismissal and withdrawal has been  
7 increase [sic] substantially since 2015 under DA [Seth]  
8 Williams, and has continued to increase after DA Krasner took  
9 office. Furthermore, a closer examination of these dropped cases  
10 indicates that more cases are dismissed/withdrawn at the  
11 preliminary hearing state [sic] under DA Krasner than the actual  
12 trial state []. This implies that, even when criminals are  
13 caught with a gun, they are swiftly finding out they may not  
14 receive as significant a consequence as they had historically.  
15 Notably, the likelihood of being arrested is low to begin with.  
16 This means that, criminals know that their likelihood of getting  
17 caught with a gun is slim and, even if they get caught, they  
18 feel that they can leave without severe (or any) consequences."

19 The DVIC conducted a "cursory examination" of  
20 dismissed/withdrawn cases in 2018/2019 and "found 6 offenders  
21 whose cases were dismissed (VUFA former convict charge) and got  
22 later involved in shootings...2 of these shootings were fatal  
23 and 4 out of these 6 offenders were gang members."

24 The DVIC studied the prosecution declination for narcotics,  
25 retail theft and prostitution arrests from 2016 to 2018, and  
26 concluded in its key findings that the percentage of all  
27 declinations, not just narcotics, prostitution and retail theft,  
28 increased "especially in 2018" to more than 7%, when it had been  
29 just 2% or less between 2007 and 2015.

30 In September 2020, the Philadelphia City Council authorized  
31 the Committee on Public Safety and the Special Committee on Gun  
32 Violence Prevention to study gun violence in the city. This  
33 study involved a collaboration between the Controller's Office,  
34 Defender Association, Department of Public Health, District  
35 Attorney's Office, First Judicial District, Managing Director's  
36 Office, Pennsylvania Attorney General and PPD. The published  
37 results, called the "100 Shooting Review Committee Report,"  
38 discusses trends and general findings regarding shootings in the  
39 City of Philadelphia. The published results showed the  
40 following:

41 (1) The clearance rate (*i.e.*, when an arrest was made or  
42 a suspect that could not be arrested was identified) for  
43 fatal shootings in 2020 was 37% and the rate for nonfatal  
44 shootings was 18%.

45 (2) There has been a "marked increase" in the number of  
46 people arrested for illegal gun possession without the  
47 accusation of an additional offense, including a doubling in  
48 arrests for illegal possession of a firearm without a license  
49 since 2018.

50 (3) The initial and final bail amounts set by courts in  
51 illegal possession of firearms cases declined between 2015

1 and 2019 and increased in 2020 and 2021.

2 (4) Conviction rates in shooting cases declined between  
3 2016 and 2020 from 96% to 80% in fatal shootings and from 69%  
4 to 64% in nonfatal shootings.

5 (5) There is a long-term trend of a reduction in  
6 conviction rates for illegal gun possession cases, dropping  
7 from 65% in 2015 to 45% in 2020.

8 In August 2022, the Philadelphia Police Commissioner  
9 indicated that her department is short-staffed by approximately  
10 20%, or 1,300 officers, due to low morale, politics, increased  
11 scrutiny and "uniquely stringent hiring requirements" during a  
12 nationwide shortage.

13 Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw stated, "The truth is the  
14 homicides are not happening in a vacuum - there are those who  
15 are determined to attack and kill their victims. While we are  
16 making constant adjustments to mitigate this sickening reality,  
17 our officers, simply put, just can't keep up by being everywhere  
18 at all times." While the PPD may arrest a suspect for the  
19 commission of a crime, the Philadelphia District Attorney's  
20 Office is one of the few district attorney's offices in this  
21 Commonwealth that reserves unto itself the authority to charge a  
22 person for a criminal act.

23 In October 2022, following yet another act of violence  
24 against police in the City of Philadelphia, Police Commissioner  
25 Danielle Outlaw issued the following statement:

26 "We are tired of arresting the same suspects over and over  
27 again, only to see them right back out on the street to continue  
28 and sometimes escalate their criminal ways. We are tired of  
29 having to send our officers into harm's way to serve warrants on  
30 suspects who have no business being on the street in the first  
31 place.

32 No - not everyone needs to be in jail. But when we repeatedly  
33 see the extensive criminal histories of those we arrest for  
34 violent crime, the question needs to be asked as to why they  
35 were yet again back on the street and terrorizing our  
36 communities.

37 I am beyond disgusted by this violence. Our entire department  
38 is sickened by what is happening to the people that live, work,  
39 and visit our city. Residents are tired of it. Business owners  
40 are tired of it. Our children are tired of it.  
41 We are long past 'enough is enough'."

42 Acts of violence, and particularly violent crimes committed  
43 with firearms, have exacted a heavy toll on victims and their  
44 families, with countless lives unnecessarily lost or  
45 irretrievably broken, due to the increase of violent crime in  
46 the City of Philadelphia. The foregoing acts constitute  
47 "misbehavior in office" by District Attorney Krasner in that  
48 such acts have substantially contributed to the increase in  
49 crime in the City of Philadelphia, undermined confidence in the  
50 criminal justice system, and betrayed the trust of the citizens  
51 of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth.



1 committee was illegitimate and that its subpoenas served "no  
2 valid legislative purpose, violating the separation of powers,  
3 invading legal privileges, and seeking to deny the  
4 constitutional rights of Philadelphia's citizens, especially  
5 their democratic right to vote and choose their local leaders."

6 District Attorney Krasner asserted various claims that held  
7 no basis in fact or law, including the following:

8 (1) District Attorneys are not subject to impeachment.

9 (2) Impeaching the District Attorney violates the  
10 constitutional rights of the people who voted for him.

11 (3) The District Attorney committed no wrong, and  
12 therefore was not required to comply with the committee  
13 chair's subpoena.

14 (4) Impeachment of a public official requires a  
15 conviction for a criminal act; and

16 District Attorney Krasner and his office refused to search  
17 for or produce any documents in response to the subpoena.  
18 Despite multiple attempts by counsel to the select committee  
19 chair to bring District Attorney Krasner and his office into  
20 compliance with the subpoenas, explaining on multiple occasions  
21 that the select committee was seeking nonprivileged records and,  
22 as it related to any record for which the District Attorney  
23 believed were privileged, the District Attorney should follow  
24 common practice in responding to a subpoena by providing a  
25 privilege log to identify those records for which the District  
26 Attorney asserts a privilege.

27 On September 12, 2022, after multiple exchanges between  
28 counsel and a Request to Show Cause why the District Attorney  
29 should not be held in contempt by the House, the select  
30 committee issued an interim report pursuant to Rule 51 of the  
31 General Operating Rules of the House of Representatives,  
32 notifying the House of District Attorney Krasner's refusal to  
33 comply with the subpoena and recommending that the House  
34 consider contempt proceedings.

35 The House of Representatives adopted House Resolution 227 on  
36 September 13, 2022, resolving that the House hold District  
37 Attorney Krasner in contempt. House Resolution 227 was adopted  
38 by a bipartisan vote of 162 to 38.

39 District Attorney Krasner filed an action in Commonwealth  
40 Court on September 2, 2022, in which he raised the same  
41 arguments that fail to have any meaningful basis in law or fact.  
42 District Attorney Krasner and his office have since feigned  
43 partial compliance with the subpoena, providing several public-  
44 facing records obtained without the need to engage in any  
45 legitimate effort to search for the records.

46 The select committee chair invited District Attorney Krasner  
47 to testify before the select committee in executive session on  
48 October 21, 2022. District Attorney Krasner refused to testify  
49 in executive session, demanding a public hearing instead.  
50 District Attorney Krasner then published a press release which  
51 was misleading at best, mischaracterizing the invitation to

1 District Attorney Krasner to testify in yet another moment of  
2 grandstanding.

3 Given the District Attorney's rejection of the invitation to  
4 testify in executive session, the select committee was compelled  
5 to cancel the hearing.

6 District Attorney Krasner has, at every turn, obstructed the  
7 efforts of the House Select Committee on Restoring Law and  
8 Order. He has consistently raised specious claims without a good  
9 faith basis in law or fact. Even after the House of  
10 Representatives resolved to hold him in contempt, District  
11 Attorney Krasner's efforts to comply with subpoenas issued by  
12 the select committee chair fall far short of what can be  
13 considered a reasonable good faith effort.

14 WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is  
15 guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office  
16 and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under  
17 this Commonwealth.

18 Article III:

19 Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of  
20 the Rules of Professional Conduct and Code of  
21 Judicial Conduct; specifically Rule 3.3 Candor Toward  
22 the Tribunal, Rule 8.4 Professional Misconduct, and  
23 Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct Impropriety  
24 and Appearance of Impropriety in the Matter  
25 of *Robert Wharton v. Donald T. Vaughn*

26 In the Federal habeas corpus proceeding in *Robert Wharton v.*  
27 *Donald T. Vaughn*, Federal District Court Judge Goldberg issued a  
28 memorandum order admonishing and sanctioning the District  
29 Attorney's Office. Robert Wharton was convicted of murdering the  
30 parents of survivor Lisa Hart-Newman, who was seven months old  
31 at the time and was left to freeze to death with her deceased  
32 parents by Mr. Wharton.

33 After his conviction, Wharton pursued a death penalty habeas  
34 petition in the Federal district court. The District Attorney's  
35 Office under prior administrations had opposed this petition.

36 In 2019, District Attorney Krasner's administration filed a  
37 "Notice of Concession of Penalty Phase Relief," stating that it  
38 would not seek a new death sentence, and, based on that  
39 sentencing relief, the litigation and appeals could end. The  
40 concession noted only that the decision to concede was made  
41 "[f]ollowing review of this case by the Capital Case Review  
42 Committee of the Philadelphia [District Attorney's Office],  
43 communication with the victims' family, and notice to  
44 [Wharton's] counsel."

45 Judge Goldberg undertook an independent analysis of the  
46 merits of the claim and invited the Pennsylvania Office Attorney  
47 General (OAG) to file an amicus brief in the case. In its  
48 amicus, the OAG submitted additional facts that the District  
49 Attorney's Office had not disclosed, including evidence of  
50 prison misconducts, attempted escapes and Department of  
51 Corrections concerns regarding "assaultiveness" and "escape" by

1 Mr. Wharton.

2 The OAG concluded that "given the facts of this investigation  
3 and aggravating sentencing factors present in this case, Wharton  
4 could not establish a reasonable probability that the outcome of  
5 his penalty phase death sentence would have been different if  
6 the jury had heard evidence of his alleged 'positive' prison  
7 adjustment."

8 The OAG further determined that members of the family,  
9 including victim Ms. Hart-Newman, were not contacted and that  
10 they opposed the concession by the District Attorney's Office.

11 After an evidentiary hearing, Judge Goldberg held as follows:

12 (1) The District Attorney's Office failed to advise the  
13 court of significant anti-mitigation evidence, including that  
14 Mr. Wharton had made an escape attempt at a court appearance.

15 (2) Two of the office's supervisors violated Federal  
16 Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b)(3) "based upon that Office's  
17 representations to this Court that lacked evidentiary support  
18 and were not in any way formed after 'an inquiry reasonable  
19 under the circumstances.'"

20 (3) Representations of communication with the victims'  
21 family were "misleading," "false," and "yet another  
22 representation to the Court made after an inquiry that was  
23 not reasonable under the circumstances."

24 (4) The Law Division Supervisor, Assistant Supervisor  
25 and District Attorney's Office violated Rule 11(b)(1), and  
26 concluding that the violation was "sufficiently 'egregious'  
27 and 'exceptional' under the circumstances to warrant  
28 sanctions."

29 Judge Goldberg imposed nonmonetary sanctions on the District  
30 Attorney's Office, requiring that separate written apologies be  
31 sent to the victim, Lisa Hart-Newman, and the victim's family  
32 members. Given the testimony of the two Law Division supervisors  
33 that District Attorney Krasner approved and implemented internal  
34 procedures that created the need for this sanction, and that the  
35 District Attorney had the sole, ultimate authority to direct  
36 that the misleading Notice of Concession be filed, therefore  
37 "the apologies shall come from the District Attorney, Lawrence  
38 Krasner, personally."

39 District Attorney Krasner has the sole authority to approve  
40 court filings on behalf of Philadelphia District Attorney's  
41 office. While in office, District Attorney Krasner directed,  
42 approved and or permitted the filing of a "Notice of  
43 Concession" and presentation of other pleadings and statements  
44 in Federal court which contained materially false and or  
45 misleading affirmative statements and purposeful omissions of  
46 fact in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 3.3  
47 (Candor Toward the Tribunal) and Rule 8.4 (Professional  
48 Misconduct), and Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 2 (Impropriety  
49 and or Appearance of Impropriety).

50 WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is  
51 guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office

1 and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under  
2 this Commonwealth.

3 Article IV:

4 Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of  
5 the Rules of Professional Conduct; specifically  
6 Rule 3.3 Candor Toward the Tribunal, Rule 8.4  
7 Professional Misconduct, and Canon 2 of the Code  
8 of Judicial Conduct Impropriety and Appearance of  
9 Impropriety in the matter of *Commonwealth vs. Pownall*

10 In his special concurrence in *Commonwealth v. Pownall*,  
11 Supreme Court Justice Dougherty highlighted what he feared to be  
12 an effort by the District Attorney's Office to deprive certain  
13 defendants of a fair and speedy trial. Following the June 2017  
14 incident in which former Philadelphia police officer Ryan  
15 Pownall shot and killed David Jones, the District Attorney's  
16 Office submitted the matter to an investigative grand jury. The  
17 investigating grand jury issued a presentment recommending that  
18 Pownall be charged with criminal homicide, possession of an  
19 instrument of crime and recklessly endangering another person;  
20 and

21 During trial, the prosecutor filed a motion in limine to  
22 preclude the standard peace officer justification defense  
23 instruction, based on the assertion that the instruction, which  
24 largely tracked language of statute, violated Fourth Amendment  
25 prohibition against unreasonable search and seizure. The motion  
26 was denied and the prosecution appealed to the Superior Court,  
27 which quashed the appeal as unauthorized. The Supreme Court  
28 granted the prosecutor's request for allowance of appeal.

29 The Supreme Court ultimately denied the appeal, but the  
30 special concurrence filed by Justice Dougherty illuminated  
31 startling behavior by the District Attorney's Office. Justice  
32 Dougherty held that the District Attorney's Office's actions  
33 during grand jury process "implicate[s] a potential abuse" and  
34 stated that "the presentment in this case is perhaps best  
35 characterized as a 'foul blow.'" He referred to the grand jury  
36 presentment, authored by the District Attorney's Office, as a  
37 "gratuitous narrative."

38 Justice Dougherty also recognized that any abuse of the grand  
39 jury could have been remedied by "Statutory safeguards embedded  
40 in the process," such as a preliminary hearing. He went on to  
41 say "What is troubling is the DAO's effort to ensure that would  
42 not occur," *i.e.*, their filing of a motion to bypass the  
43 preliminary hearing.

44 Justice Dougherty found it "inexplicable" that, in presenting  
45 a bypass motion to the Court of Common Pleas, the District  
46 Attorney's Office failed to highlight the Investigating Grand  
47 Jury Act section 4551(e), which directs that a defendant "shall"  
48 be entitled to a preliminary hearing. He emphasized that the  
49 District Attorney's Office "appear[ed] to have known [about that  
50 requirement] at the time it filed its motion."

51 As it related to the prosecutor's motion in limine and

1 interlocutory appeal, Justice Dougherty observed that the  
2 District Attorney's Office's motion "presented only half the  
3 relevant picture." He went on to say that "this type of advocacy  
4 would be worrisome coming from any litigant," but coming from a  
5 prosecutor, "is even more concerning, particularly in light of  
6 the motion's timing...." He cited directly to Pennsylvania Rule  
7 of Professional Conduct 3.3 regarding candor to the tribunal.

8 Further referencing ethical concerns, Justice Dougherty found  
9 that the timing of the motion in limine, "[w]hen combined with  
10 the other tactics highlighted throughout this concurrence,"  
11 could lead to the conclusion that the decision to take "an  
12 unauthorized interlocutory appeal was intended to deprive [Mr.  
13 Pownall] of a fair and speedy trial." Justice Dougherty went on  
14 to say:

15 Now, for the first time before this Court, the DAO finally  
16 admits its true intent in all this was simply to use  
17 Pownall's case as a vehicle to force judicial determination  
18 on 'whether Section 508(a)(1) is facially unconstitutional.'  
19 DAO's Reply Brief at 1; see id. at 6 (asserting Section 508's  
20 applicability to [Pownall] is not the subject of this  
21 appeal"). What's more, despite having assured the trial court  
22 it was not trying 'to bar [Pownall] from a defense[.]' N.T.  
23 11/25/2019 at 8, the DAO now boldly asserts it would be  
24 appropriate for this Court to rewrite the law and  
25 retroactively apply it to Pownall's case because he  
26 supposedly 'had fair notice of his inability to rely on this  
27 unconstitutional defense[.]' DAO's Brief at 10.

28 Justice Dougherty concluded, "Little that has happened in  
29 this case up to this point reflects procedural justice. On the  
30 contrary, the DAO's prosecution of Pownall appears to be "driven  
31 by a win-at-all-cost office culture" that treats police officers  
32 differently than other criminal defendants. DAO CONVICTION  
33 INTEGRITY UNIT REPORT, OVERTURNING CONVICTIONS - AND AN ERA 2  
34 (June 15, 2021) available at [tinyurl.com/CIU\\_report](http://tinyurl.com/CIU_report) (last  
35 visited July 19, 2022). This is the antithesis of what the law  
36 expects of a prosecutor."

37 On remand, Common Pleas Court Judge McDermott said that there  
38 were "so many things wrong" with the District Attorney's  
39 Office's instructions to the investigating grand jury that it  
40 warranted dismissing all charges against Mr. Pownall. After  
41 hearing testimony from the assistant district attorneys who  
42 handled the grand jury and preparation of the presentment, Judge  
43 McDermott concluded that the District Attorney's Office failed  
44 to provide the legal instructions to the grand jurors on the  
45 definitions for homicide and information regarding the use-of-  
46 force defense.

47 In her October 17, 2022, Statement of Findings of Fact and  
48 Conclusions of Law, Judge McDermott stated, "The Commonwealth  
49 made an intentional, deliberate choice not to inform the grand  
50 jurors about the justification defense under Section 508. While  
51 [the ADA] was aware of Section 508 and its applicability to the

1 Defendant's case at the time of the Grand Jury proceedings, she  
2 decided not to advise the Grand Jury about Section 508 after  
3 consulting with other, more senior Assistant District  
4 Attorneys."

5 As it related to Pownall's right to a preliminary hearing,  
6 Judge McDermott wrote:

7 In its Motion to bypass the preliminary hearing, the  
8 Commonwealth demonstrated a lack of candor to the Court by  
9 misstating the law and providing Judge Coleman with incorrect  
10 case law.

11 \* \* \*

12 The Commonwealth was also disingenuous with the Court  
13 when it asserted that it had good cause to bypass the  
14 preliminary hearing under Pa.R.Crim.P. 565(a) because of the  
15 complexity of the case, the large number of witnesses the  
16 Commonwealth would have to call, the expense, and the delay  
17 caused by a preliminary hearing. As a preliminary hearing was  
18 not held in this case, the Defendant's due process rights  
19 were violated and the Defendant suffered prejudice.

20 Judge McDermott told the District Attorney's Office that if  
21 defense counsel had made the decisions that the District  
22 Attorney's Office made, she would "declare them incompetent."  
23 The District Attorney's Office's own expert report from Gregory  
24 A. Warren, Ed.D., of American Law Enforcement Training and  
25 Consulting concluded that, given all the facts presented to him,  
26 Officer Pownall's "use of deadly force in this case was  
27 justified." This expert report was withheld from Pownall by the  
28 District Attorney's Office.

29 District Attorney Krasner has the sole authority to approve  
30 court filings on behalf of Philadelphia District Attorney's  
31 office. While in office District Attorney Krasner directed,  
32 approved and or permitted the filing of motions, presentations  
33 of other pleadings and statements to the Grand Jury and the  
34 Court which intentionally omitted, concealed and or withheld  
35 material facts and legal authority relevant to the judicial  
36 proceedings in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct,  
37 Rule 3.3 (Candor Toward the Tribunal), Rule 8.4 (Professional  
38 Misconduct) and Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 2 (Impropriety  
39 and or Appearance of Impropriety).

40 WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is  
41 guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office  
42 and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under  
43 this Commonwealth.

44 Article V:

45 Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of  
46 the Rules of Professional Conduct and Code of  
47 Judicial Conduct; specifically Rule 3.3 Candor to  
48 Tribunal, Rule 8.4 Professional Misconduct, and Canon  
49 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct Impropriety and  
50 Appearance of Impropriety in the matter In  
51 re: Conflicts of Interest of Philadelphia District

Attorney's Office

1  
2 During sworn testimony, District Attorney Krasner withheld  
3 material facts from the Supreme Court when he testified under  
4 oath before the Supreme Court's Special Master. The Special  
5 Master was appointed by the Supreme Court pursuant to its King's  
6 Bench jurisdiction to investigate whether District Attorney  
7 Krasner had a conflict of interest favoring the defendant and  
8 appellant, Mumia Abu-Jamal, who had been convicted of first-  
9 degree murder of Officer Daniel Faulkner. District Attorney  
10 Krasner testified that he "never represented any advocacy  
11 organization for Mumia Abu-Jamal."

12 While affirmatively stating he never represented an  
13 "organization" which advocated for Mumia Abu-Jamal, District  
14 Attorney Krasner omitted the fact that he had, in fact,  
15 represented at least one pro-Mumia activist who was arrested for  
16 seeking to intimidate the judge deciding Abu-Jamal's Post  
17 Conviction Relief Act ("PCRA") Petition. That activist, who at  
18 the time was the "Director" of the "Youth Action Coalition," was  
19 arrested along-side local leaders of The International Concerned  
20 Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal, all of whom were  
21 protesting outside the home of Abu-Jamal's PCRA judge in an  
22 effort to illegally influence the very proceedings at issue in  
23 Mumia Abu-Jamal's nunc pro tunc appeal.

24 District Attorney Krasner represented this "Director," and  
25 potentially other pro-Mumia activists, against charges for  
26 violating a criminal statute that prohibits protesting outside  
27 the homes of judicial officers to influence the outcome of cases  
28 pending before the judicial officers. Yet, in testifying that he  
29 "never represented any advocacy organization for Mumia Abu-  
30 Jamal," District Attorney Krasner omitted these material facts,  
31 providing a partial and misleading disclosure regarding his  
32 connection to the effort to exonerate and free Mumia Abu-Jamal.  
33 District Attorney Krasner's misleading disclosure was directly  
34 relevant to the subject matter under investigation by the  
35 Supreme Court in that he was concealing material facts  
36 concerning his conflicts of interest in the Mumia Abu-Jamal  
37 matter, an issue at the very heart of the Supreme Court's review  
38 of the King's Bench Petition filed by the widow of Officer  
39 Faulkner. District Attorney Krasner therefore violated Rules of  
40 Professional Conduct, Rule 3.3 (Candor Toward the Tribunal),  
41 Rule 8.4 (Professional Misconduct) and Code of Judicial Conduct,  
42 Canon 2 (Impropriety and or Appearance of Impropriety).

43 WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is  
44 guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office  
45 and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under  
46 this Commonwealth.

Article VI:

Misbehavior in Office in Nature of  
Violation of Victims Rights

50 Federal and State law provides for certain rights for victims  
51 related to the prosecution and sentencing of the defendants who

1 victimized them or their family members (18 U.S.C. § 3771 (b) (2)  
2 (A) and section 201 of the act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882,  
3 No.111), known as the Crime Victims Act). Chief among the rights  
4 provided to victims is the right to be kept informed at all  
5 stages of the prosecution through clear, respectful and honest  
6 communication and to be consulted with regard to sentencing.  
7 District Attorney Krasner repeatedly violated, and allowed  
8 Assistant District Attorneys under his supervision to violate,  
9 the Federal and state victims' rights acts on multiple occasions  
10 by specifically failing to timely contact victims, deliberately  
11 misleading victims and or disregarding victim input and treating  
12 victims with contempt and disrespect.

13 WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is  
14 guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office  
15 and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under  
16 this Commonwealth.

17 Article VII:

18 Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation  
19 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania By Usurpation  
20 of the Legislative Function

21 Pursuant to Article II of the Constitution of Pennsylvania,  
22 the legislative power is vested in the General Assembly.  
23 District Attorney Krasner as an elected executive in the City of  
24 Philadelphia has no authority to create, repeal or amend any  
25 state law. Despite this clear separation of powers, District  
26 Attorney Krasner has contravened the authority of the  
27 legislature by refusing to prosecute specifically prohibited  
28 conduct under state law. Rather than exercising his inherent  
29 discretionary powers to review and determine charges on a case-  
30 by-case basis, District Attorney Krasner, in his capacity as the  
31 Commonwealth's Attorney in the City of Philadelphia,  
32 unilaterally determined, directed and ensured that certain  
33 crimes would no longer be prosecuted and were therefore *de facto*  
34 legal.

35 These crimes include prostitution, theft and drug-related  
36 offenses, among others. In particular, the *de facto* legalization  
37 of prostitution by District Attorney Krasner has had a  
38 devastating impact on women who are victims of sex trafficking  
39 and the communities where they are trafficked. Refusing to  
40 prosecute retail theft of property with less than a value of  
41 \$500, District Attorney Krasner has created an atmosphere of  
42 lawlessness in Philadelphia, with the direct effect of causing  
43 businesses to curtail activity or cease doing business  
44 altogether in Philadelphia. District Attorney Krasner's refusal  
45 to prosecute those caught driving under the influence of  
46 marijuana, aside from contributing to the lawlessness in the  
47 city, has created dangerous situations for the health, safety  
48 and welfare of the people in Philadelphia. District Attorney  
49 Krasner *de facto* legalizing such acts that the General Assembly  
50 has determined to be illegal is a clear usurpation of  
51 legislative powers in violation of the Constitution of

1 Pennsylvania, and thus constitutes misbehavior in office.

2 WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is  
3 guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office  
4 and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under  
5 this Commonwealth.

6 The House of Representatives hereby reserves to itself the  
7 right and ability to exhibit at any time after adoption of this  
8 resolution further or more detailed Articles of Impeachment  
9 against District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner, to reply to  
10 any answers that District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner may  
11 make to any Articles of Impeachment which are exhibited and to  
12 offer proof at trial in the Senate in support of each and every  
13 Article of Impeachment which shall be exhibited by them.

14 Upon the articles of impeachment against Lawrence Samuel  
15 Krasner, Philadelphia District Attorney, being signed by the  
16 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Speaker shall  
17 appoint a committee of three members, two from the majority  
18 party and one from the minority party, to exhibit the same to  
19 the Senate, and on behalf of the House of Representatives to  
20 manage the trial thereof.

21 The expenses of the committee shall be paid by the Chief  
22 Clerk from appropriation accounts under the Chief Clerk's  
23 exclusive control and jurisdiction upon a written request  
24 approved by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
25 Majority Leader of the House of Representatives or the Minority  
26 Leader of the House of Representatives.

# **EXHIBIT C**

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 240 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY WHITE, ROSSI, STAATS, O'NEAL, OWLETT, SONNEY, GREINER, R. MACKENZIE, E. NELSON, DIAMOND, DUNBAR, TWARDZIK, GLEIM, KLUNK, RYAN, WARNER, MILLARD, ARMANINI, BENNINGHOFF, KERWIN, M. MACKENZIE, FEE, HICKERNELL, HEFFLEY, LEWIS DELROSSO, GREGORY, KAIL, CAUSER AND GILLESPIE, OCTOBER 26, 2022

AS AMENDED, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NOVEMBER 16, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Impeaching Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of  
2 Philadelphia, for misbehavior in office; and providing for  
3 the appointment of trial managers.

4 ~~WHEREAS, Lawrence Samuel Krasner was elected to the position <--~~  
5 ~~of District Attorney of Philadelphia on November 7, 2017, and~~  
6 ~~re-elected to the position on November 2, 2021, pursuant to~~  
7 ~~section 4 of Article IX of the Constitution of Pennsylvania; and~~

8 ~~WHEREAS, Upon assuming office, District Attorney Krasner~~  
9 ~~terminated more than 30 assistant district attorneys (ADA) from~~  
10 ~~employment with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office; and~~

11 ~~WHEREAS, Many of these terminated assistant district~~  
12 ~~attorneys were senior level staffers in supervisory roles who~~  
13 ~~possessed significant prosecutorial experience and knowledge of~~  
14 ~~criminal procedure; and~~

15 ~~WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner replaced this vast~~  
16 ~~institutional knowledge in the Philadelphia District Attorney's~~

~~1 Office with attorneys who lacked any meaningful experience in  
2 prosecuting criminal cases, some of whom only recently graduated  
3 from law school; and~~

~~4 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner subsequently withdrew the  
5 office from membership in the Pennsylvania District Attorneys  
6 Association (PDAA) because, he asserted, PDAA supported  
7 regressive and punitive policies; and~~

~~8 WHEREAS, In withdrawing from PDAA, District Attorney Krasner  
9 denied the attorneys in his office the ability to participate in  
10 the various professional development and training programs  
11 provided by PDAA through its educational institute; and~~

~~12 WHEREAS, Rather than offering traditional prosecutorial  
13 training on such subjects as prosecutorial ethics, human  
14 trafficking, witness examination, trial advocacy, trial  
15 management and achieving justice for domestic violence and  
16 sexual assault victims, District Attorney Krasner offered  
17 attorneys seminars, including "A New Vision for Criminal Justice  
18 in Philadelphia," "Deportation: The Unforeseen Consequences of  
19 Prosecution in our Immigrant Community," and "Philadelphia and  
20 Safe Injection: Harm Reduction as Public Policy"; and~~

~~21 WHEREAS, The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office  
22 eventually returned to more traditional prosecutorial training,  
23 however, the office continued to focus on issues that promote  
24 District Attorney Krasner's progressive philosophies rather than  
25 how to effectively prosecute a criminal case; and~~

~~26 WHEREAS, Upon being elected to office, District Attorney  
27 Krasner established a series of office policies with the  
28 purported purpose to "end mass incarceration and bring balance  
29 back to sentencing," and later adopted a series of policies  
30 related to certain crimes or classes of people; and~~

1       ~~WHEREAS, These policies include directives not to charge sex~~  
2 ~~workers or individuals for certain classes of crimes such as~~  
3 ~~prostitution or possession of marijuana and marijuana related~~  
4 ~~drug paraphernalia; and~~

5       ~~WHEREAS, These new policies identified a series of offenses~~  
6 ~~for which the gradation may be reduced with the purpose of~~  
7 ~~"reduc[ing] pre trial incarceration rates as no bail is required~~  
8 ~~and the shorter time required for hearings expedites Municipal~~  
9 ~~Court and Common Pleas dockets," and requiring disposition of~~  
10 ~~retail theft cases unless the value of the item stolen exceeds~~  
11 ~~\$500 or where the defendant has an extensive history of theft~~  
12 ~~convictions; and~~

13       ~~WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner instituted policies to~~  
14 ~~make plea offers below the bottom end of the mitigated range~~  
15 ~~under the Sentencing Guidelines from the Pennsylvania Sentencing~~  
16 ~~Commission and seek greater use of house arrest, probation and~~  
17 ~~alternative sentencing when the sentencing guidelines indicate a~~  
18 ~~range of incarceration below 24 months; and~~

19       ~~WHEREAS, In February 2018, District Attorney Krasner~~  
20 ~~established a policy that his office "will ordinarily no longer~~  
21 ~~ask for cash bail for . . . misdemeanors and felonies" listed in~~  
22 ~~the policy, because "The cash bail system is rife with injustice~~  
23 ~~and exacerbates socio economic and racial inequalities,~~

24 ~~disproportionately penalizing the poor and people of color"; and~~

25       ~~WHEREAS, In November 2018, District Attorney Krasner adopted~~  
26 ~~a policy in which a criminal defendant's immigration status~~  
27 ~~should be considered in the plea bargaining process, effectively~~  
28 ~~providing that where an immigration consequence is detected pre~~  
29 ~~trial or with respect to a sentencing recommendation, counsel~~  
30 ~~will advise if an offer can be made to avoid the consequence;~~

1 and

2 ~~WHEREAS, Other policies that District Attorney Krasner~~  
3 ~~directed were as follows:~~

4 ~~(1) Assistant district attorneys may not proceed in~~  
5 ~~cases against defendants driving under the influence of~~  
6 ~~cannabis when the defendants blood "contains inactive~~  
7 ~~metabolite (11 Nor 9 Carboxy Delta 9 THC) or 4 or fewer~~  
8 ~~ng/mls of psycho active THC" and that "if the defense~~  
9 ~~presents evidence that calls impairment into question, an ADA~~  
10 ~~may consider dropping the charges against the defendant."~~

11 ~~(2) The District Attorney's Office "will only oppose~~  
12 ~~motions for redactions or expungements in limited~~  
13 ~~circumstances" and sets forth various scenarios in which the~~  
14 ~~Office will agree to, seek or not oppose the expungement of a~~  
15 ~~defendant's criminal history.~~

16 ~~(3) The District Attorney's Office directed plea offers~~  
17 ~~and sentencing recommendations:~~

18 ~~(i) for felonies, "aimed at an office wide average~~  
19 ~~period of total supervision among cases of around 18~~  
20 ~~months or less of total supervision, with a ceiling of 3~~  
21 ~~years of total supervision or less on each case";~~

22 ~~(ii) for misdemeanors, aimed at an office wide~~  
23 ~~average of "6 months or less of total supervision, with a~~  
24 ~~ceiling of 1 year";~~

25 ~~(iii) for all matters, for "concurrent sentences";~~  
26 and

27 ~~(iv) for cases involving incarceration, "for a~~  
28 ~~period of parole that is no longer than the period of~~  
29 ~~incarceration";~~

30 and

1       ~~WHEREAS, Nearly all of District Attorney Krasner's policies~~  
2 ~~"create a presumption" for ADAs to follow and require approval~~  
3 ~~from Krasner himself or a first assistant district attorney for~~  
4 ~~deviations from the policies; and~~

5       ~~WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner, in an April 2021 report~~  
6 ~~published by the DAO titled "Ending Mass Supervision: Evaluating~~  
7 ~~Reforms," wrote in his opening letter: "I am proud of the work~~  
8 ~~this office has done to make Philadelphians, particularly~~  
9 ~~Philadelphians of Color, freer from unnecessary government~~  
10 ~~intrusion, while keeping our communities safe"; and~~

11       ~~WHEREAS, In reality, the policies and practices of the~~  
12 ~~Philadelphia District Attorney's Office instituted under the~~  
13 ~~direction of District Attorney Krasner have led to catastrophic~~  
14 ~~consequences for the people of the City of Philadelphia; and~~

15       ~~WHEREAS, According to the City Controller, spikes in gun~~  
16 ~~violence and homicides have dramatically impacted historically~~  
17 ~~disadvantaged neighborhoods, and those neighborhoods are~~  
18 ~~"primarily low income with predominately black or African-~~  
19 ~~American residents"; and~~

20       ~~WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Police Department (PPD) reports~~  
21 ~~that the number of homicide victims has increased every year~~  
22 ~~since 2016, more than doubling from 2016 to 2021, with a year~~  
23 ~~over year increase of 40% between 2019 and 2020; and~~

24       ~~WHEREAS, As of October 16, 2022, there have already been 430~~  
25 ~~homicides in the City of Philadelphia in 2022; and~~

26       ~~WHEREAS, As of October 17, 2022, reported trends gathered~~  
27 ~~from the PPD's "incident" data, which tracks the reporting of~~  
28 ~~all crimes in addition to homicides, shows a 12% increase in all~~  
29 ~~reported offenses, a 6% increase in violent offenses and a 21%~~  
30 ~~increase in property offenses; and~~

1       ~~WHEREAS, While incidents of violent crime are increasing,~~  
2 ~~prosecution of crime by the Philadelphia District Attorney's~~  
3 ~~Office has decreased during this same period; and~~

4       ~~WHEREAS, In 2016, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office~~  
5 ~~reported that only 30% of "all offenses" resulted in a dismissal~~  
6 ~~or withdrawal, but that number spiked to 50% in 2019, 54% in~~  
7 ~~2020, 67% in 2021 and 65% to date in 2022; and~~

8       ~~WHEREAS, A similar trend is evident when filtering the data~~  
9 ~~for violent crimes, where, in 2016, the withdrawal and dismissed~~  
10 ~~violent crime cases accounted for 48% of all violent crime case~~  
11 ~~outcomes, but that percentage increased to 60% in 2019, to 68%~~  
12 ~~in 2020, to 70% in 2021 and to 66% in 2022 to date; and~~

13       ~~WHEREAS, Data from the Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission~~  
14 ~~relating to violations of the Uniform Firearms Act (VUFA)~~  
15 ~~evidences a similar jarring trend; and~~

16       ~~WHEREAS, The Sentencing Commission reports that guilty~~  
17 ~~dispositions in the City of Philadelphia declined from 88% in~~  
18 ~~2015 to 66% in 2020, compared to a decline from 84% to 72% in~~  
19 ~~counties of the second class, with the driver of the decrease~~  
20 ~~being nolle pros dispositions; and~~

21       ~~WHEREAS, As compared to the Statewide data and other county~~  
22 ~~classes, the percent of guilty verdicts has decreased~~  
23 ~~significantly, while the percent of nolle prossed cases has~~  
24 ~~increased in the City of Philadelphia; and~~

25       ~~WHEREAS, Studies by the Delaware Valley Intelligence Center~~  
26 ~~(DVIC) attempted to provide "an explanation for the increase in~~  
27 ~~homicides and shootings in an effort to begin a conversation to~~  
28 ~~address the challenge at a strategic level," significantly, the~~  
29 ~~report notes:~~

30       ~~"The rate of prosecution dismissal and withdrawal has been~~

1 ~~increase [sic] substantially since 2015 under DA [Seth]~~  
2 ~~Williams, and has continued to increase after DA Krasner took~~  
3 ~~office. Furthermore, a closer examination of these dropped cases~~  
4 ~~indicates that more cases are dismissed/withdrawn at the~~  
5 ~~preliminary hearing state [sic] under DA Krasner than the actual~~  
6 ~~trial state []. This implies that, even when criminals are~~  
7 ~~caught with a gun, they are swiftly finding out they may not~~  
8 ~~receive as significant a consequence as they had historically.~~  
9 ~~Notably, the likelihood of being arrested is low to begin with.~~  
10 ~~This means that, criminals know that their likelihood of getting~~  
11 ~~caught with a gun is slim and, even if they get caught, they~~  
12 ~~feel that they can leave without severe (or any) consequences.";~~  
13 ~~and~~

14 ~~WHEREAS, The DVIC conducted a " cursory examination " of~~  
15 ~~dismissed/withdrawn cases in 2018/2019 and "found 6 offenders~~  
16 ~~whose cases were dismissed (VUFA former convict charge) and got~~  
17 ~~later involved in shootings . . . 2 of these shootings were~~  
18 ~~fatal and 4 out of these 6 offenders were gang members"; and~~

19 ~~WHEREAS, The DVIC studied the prosecution declination for~~  
20 ~~narcotics, retail theft and prostitution arrests from 2016 to~~  
21 ~~2018, and concluded in its key findings that the percentage of~~  
22 ~~all declinations, not just narcotics, prostitution and retail~~  
23 ~~theft, increased "especially in 2018" to more than 7%, when it~~  
24 ~~had been just 2% or less between 2007 and 2015; and~~

25 ~~WHEREAS, In September 2020, the Philadelphia City Council~~  
26 ~~authorized the Committee on Public Safety and the Special~~  
27 ~~Committee on Gun Violence Prevention to study gun violence in~~  
28 ~~the city. This study involved a collaboration between the~~  
29 ~~Controller's Office, Defender Association, Department of Public~~  
30 ~~Health, District Attorney's Office, First Judicial District,~~

1 ~~Managing Director's Office, Pennsylvania Attorney General and~~  
2 ~~PPD. The published results, called the "100 Shooting Review~~  
3 ~~Committee Report," discusses trends and general findings~~  
4 ~~regarding shootings in the City of Philadelphia; and~~

5 ~~WHEREAS, The published results showed the following:~~

6 ~~(1) The clearance rate (i.e., when an arrest was made or~~  
7 ~~a suspect that could not be arrested was identified) for~~  
8 ~~fatal shootings in 2020 was 37% and the rate for nonfatal~~  
9 ~~shootings was 18%.~~

10 ~~(2) There has been a "marked increase" in the number of~~  
11 ~~people arrested for illegal gun possession without the~~  
12 ~~accusation of an additional offense, including a doubling in~~  
13 ~~arrests for illegal possession of a firearm without a license~~  
14 ~~since 2018.~~

15 ~~(3) The initial and final bail amounts set by courts in~~  
16 ~~illegal possession of firearms cases declined between 2015-~~  
17 ~~and 2019 and increased in 2020 and 2021.~~

18 ~~(4) Conviction rates in shooting cases declined between~~  
19 ~~2016 and 2020 from 96% to 80% in fatal shootings and from 69%~~  
20 ~~to 64% in nonfatal shootings.~~

21 ~~(5) There is a long term trend of a reduction in~~  
22 ~~conviction rates for illegal gun possession cases, dropping~~  
23 ~~from 65% in 2015 to 45% in 2020;~~

24 ~~and~~

25 ~~WHEREAS, In August 2022, the Philadelphia Police Commissioner~~  
26 ~~indicated that her department is short staffed by approximately~~  
27 ~~20%, or 1,300 officers, due to low morale, politics, increased~~  
28 ~~scrutiny and "uniquely stringent hiring requirements" during a~~  
29 ~~nationwide shortage; and~~

30 ~~WHEREAS, Commissioner Danielle Outlaw stated, "The truth is~~

1 ~~the homicides are not happening in a vacuum—there are those~~  
2 ~~who are determined to attack and kill their victims. While we~~  
3 ~~are making constant adjustments to mitigate this sickening~~  
4 ~~reality, our officers, simply put, just can't keep up by being~~  
5 ~~everywhere at all times.";~~ and

6 ~~WHEREAS, While the PPD may arrest a suspect for the~~  
7 ~~commission of a crime, the Philadelphia District Attorney's~~  
8 ~~Office is one of the few district attorney's offices in this~~  
9 ~~Commonwealth that reserves unto itself the authority to charge a~~  
10 ~~person for a criminal act;~~ and

11 ~~WHEREAS, In October 2022, following yet another act of~~  
12 ~~violence against police in the City of Philadelphia, Police~~  
13 ~~Commissioner Danielle Outlaw issued the following statement:~~

14 ~~"We are tired of arresting the same suspects over and over~~  
15 ~~again, only to see them right back out on the street to continue~~  
16 ~~and sometimes escalate their criminal ways. We are tired of~~  
17 ~~having to send our officers into harm's way to serve warrants on~~  
18 ~~suspects who have no business being on the street in the first~~  
19 ~~place.~~

20 ~~No— not everyone needs to be in jail. But when we repeatedly~~  
21 ~~see the extensive criminal histories of those we arrest for~~  
22 ~~violent crime, the question needs to be asked as to why they~~  
23 ~~were yet again back on the street and terrorizing our~~  
24 ~~communities.~~

25 ~~I am beyond disgusted by this violence. Our entire department~~  
26 ~~is sickened by what is happening to the people that live, work,~~  
27 ~~and visit our city. Residents are tired of it. Business owners~~  
28 ~~are tired of it. Our children are tired of it.~~

29 ~~We are long past 'enough is enough'.";~~  
30 and

1       ~~WHEREAS, Acts of violence, and particularly violent crimes~~  
2 ~~committed with firearms, have exacted a heavy toll on victims~~  
3 ~~and their families, with countless lives unnecessarily lost or~~  
4 ~~irretrievably broken, due to the increase of violent crime in~~  
5 ~~the City of Philadelphia; and~~

6       ~~WHEREAS, In his special concurrence in *Commonwealth v.*~~  
7 ~~*Pownall*, Justice Dougherty highlighted what he feared to be an~~  
8 ~~effort by the District Attorney's Office to deprive certain~~  
9 ~~defendants of a fair and speedy trial; and~~

10       ~~WHEREAS, Following the June 2017 incident in which former~~  
11 ~~Philadelphia police officer Ryan Pownall shot and killed David~~  
12 ~~Jones, the District Attorney's Office submitted the matter to an~~  
13 ~~investigative grand jury; and~~

14       ~~WHEREAS, The investigating grand jury issued a presentment~~  
15 ~~recommending that Pownall be charged with criminal homicide,~~  
16 ~~possession of an instrument of crime and recklessly endangering~~  
17 ~~another person; and~~

18       ~~WHEREAS, During trial, the prosecutor filed a motion in~~  
19 ~~limine to preclude the standard peace officer justification~~  
20 ~~defense instruction, based on the assertion that the~~  
21 ~~instruction, which largely tracked language of statute, violated~~  
22 ~~Fourth Amendment prohibition against unreasonable search and~~  
23 ~~seizure; and~~

24       ~~WHEREAS, The motion was denied and the prosecution appealed~~  
25 ~~to the Superior Court, which quashed the appeal as unauthorized.~~  
26 ~~The Supreme Court granted the prosecutor's request for allowance~~  
27 ~~of appeal; and~~

28       ~~WHEREAS, The Supreme Court ultimately denied the appeal, but~~  
29 ~~the special concurrence filed by Justice Dougherty illuminated~~  
30 ~~startling behavior by the District Attorney's Office; and~~

1       ~~WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty held that the District Attorney's~~  
2 ~~Office's actions during grand jury process "implicate[] a~~  
3 ~~potential abuse" and stated that "the presentment in this case~~  
4 ~~is perhaps best characterized as a 'foul blow.'" He referred to~~  
5 ~~the grand jury presentment, authored by the District Attorney's~~  
6 ~~Office, as a "gratuitous narrative"; and~~

7       ~~WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty also recognized that any abuse of~~  
8 ~~the grand jury could have been remedied by "Statutory safeguards~~  
9 ~~embedded in the process," such as a preliminary hearing. He went~~  
10 ~~on to say "What is troubling is the DAO's effort to ensure that~~  
11 ~~would not occur," i.e., their filing of a motion to bypass the~~  
12 ~~preliminary hearing; and~~

13       ~~WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty found it "inexplicable" that, in~~  
14 ~~presenting a bypass motion to the Court of Common Pleas, the~~  
15 ~~District Attorney's Office failed to highlight the Investigating~~  
16 ~~Grand Jury Act Section 4551(e), which directs that a defendant~~  
17 ~~"shall" be entitled to a preliminary hearing. He emphasized that~~  
18 ~~the District Attorney's Office "appear[ed] to have known [about~~  
19 ~~that requirement] at the time it filed its motion."; and~~

20       ~~WHEREAS, As it related to the prosecutor's motion in limine~~  
21 ~~and interlocutory appeal, Justice Dougherty observed that the~~  
22 ~~District Attorney's Office's motion "presented only half the~~  
23 ~~relevant picture." He went on to say that "this type of advocacy~~  
24 ~~would be worrisome coming from any litigant," but coming from a~~  
25 ~~prosecutor, "is even more concerning, particularly in light of~~  
26 ~~the motion's timing . . .". He cited directly to Pennsylvania~~  
27 ~~Rule of Professional Conduct 3.3 regarding candor to the~~  
28 ~~tribunal; and~~

29       ~~WHEREAS, Further referencing ethical concerns, Justice~~  
30 ~~Dougherty found that the timing of the motion in limine, "[w]hen~~

~~1 combined with the other tactics highlighted throughout this  
2 concurrence," could lead to the conclusion that the decision to  
3 take "an unauthorized interlocutory appeal was intended to  
4 deprive [Mr. Pownall] of a fair and speedy trial."; and~~

~~5 WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty went on to say:~~

~~6 Now, for the first time before this Court, the DAO finally  
7 admits its true intent in all this was simply to use Pownall's  
8 case as a vehicle to force judicial determination on 'whether  
9 Section 508(a)(1) is facially unconstitutional.' DAO's Reply  
10 Brief at 1; see id. at 6 (asserting Section 508's applicability  
11 to [Pownall] is not the subject of this appeal"). What's more,  
12 despite having assured the trial court it was not trying 'to bar  
13 [Pownall] from a defense[.]' N.T. 11/25/2019 at 8, the DAO now  
14 boldly asserts it would be appropriate for this Court to rewrite  
15 the law and retroactively apply it to Pownall's case because he  
16 supposedly 'had fair notice of his inability to rely on this  
17 unconstitutional defense[.]' DAO's Brief at 10.;~~

~~18 and~~

~~19 WHEREAS, Justice Dougherty concluded, "Little that has  
20 happened in this case up to this point reflects procedural  
21 justice. On the contrary, the DAO's prosecution of Pownall  
22 appears to be "driven by a win at all cost office culture" that  
23 treats police officers differently than other criminal  
24 defendants. DAO CONVICTION INTEGRITY UNIT REPORT, OVERTURNING  
25 CONVICTIONS AND AN ERA 2 (June 15, 2021) available at  
26 [tinyurl.com/CIU-report](http://tinyurl.com/CIU-report) (last visited July 19, 2022). This is the  
27 antithesis of what the law expects of a prosecutor."; and~~

~~28 WHEREAS, On remand, Common Pleas Court Judge McDermott said  
29 that there were "so many things wrong" with the District  
30 Attorney's Office's instructions to the investigating grand jury~~

1 ~~that it warranted dismissing all charges against Mr. Pownall;~~  
2 ~~and~~

3 ~~WHEREAS, After hearing testimony from the assistant district~~  
4 ~~attorneys who handled the grand jury and preparation of the~~  
5 ~~presentment, Judge McDermott concluded that the District~~  
6 ~~Attorney's Office failed to provide the legal instructions to~~  
7 ~~the grand jurors on the definitions for homicide and information~~  
8 ~~regarding the use of force defense; and~~

9 ~~WHEREAS, In her October 17, 2022, Statement of Findings of~~  
10 ~~Fact and Conclusions of Law, Judge McDermott stated, "The~~  
11 ~~Commonwealth made an intentional, deliberate choice not to~~  
12 ~~inform the grand jurors about the justification defense under~~  
13 ~~Section 508. While [the ADA] was aware of Section 508 and its~~  
14 ~~applicability to the Defendant's case at the time of the Grand~~  
15 ~~Jury proceedings, she decided not to advise the Grand Jury about~~  
16 ~~Section 508 after consulting with other, more senior Assistant~~  
17 ~~District Attorneys."; and~~

18 ~~WHEREAS, As it related to Pownall's right to a preliminary~~  
19 ~~hearing, Judge McDermott wrote:~~

20 ~~In its Motion to bypass the preliminary hearing, the~~  
21 ~~Commonwealth demonstrated a lack of candor to the Court by~~  
22 ~~misstating the law and providing Judge Coleman with incorrect~~  
23 ~~case law.~~

24 ~~\* \* \*~~

25 ~~The Commonwealth was also disingenuous with the Court~~  
26 ~~when it asserted that it had good cause to bypass the~~  
27 ~~preliminary hearing under Pa.R.Crim.P. 565(a) because of the~~  
28 ~~complexity of the case, the large number of witnesses the~~  
29 ~~Commonwealth would have to call, the expense, and the delay~~  
30 ~~caused by a preliminary hearing. As a preliminary hearing was~~

1 ~~not held in this case, the Defendant's due process rights~~  
2 ~~were violated and the Defendant suffered prejudice.;~~

3 and

4 ~~WHEREAS, Judge McDermott told the District Attorney's Office~~  
5 ~~that if defense counsel had made the decisions that the District~~  
6 ~~Attorney's Office made, she would "declare them incompetent.";~~

7 and

8 ~~WHEREAS, The District Attorney's Office's own expert report~~  
9 ~~from Gregory A. Warren, Ed.D., of American Law Enforcement~~  
10 ~~Training and Consulting concluded that, given all the facts~~  
11 ~~presented to him, Officer Pownall's "use of deadly force in this~~  
12 ~~case was justified.";~~ and

13 ~~WHEREAS, This expert report was withheld from Pownall by the~~  
14 ~~District Attorney's Office;~~ and

15 ~~WHEREAS, In the Federal habeas corpus proceeding in *Robert*~~  
16 ~~*Wharton v. Donald T. Vaughn*, Federal District Court Judge~~  
17 ~~Goldberg issued a memorandum order admonishing and sanctioning~~  
18 ~~the District Attorney's Office;~~ and

19 ~~WHEREAS, Robert Wharton was convicted of murdering the~~  
20 ~~parents of survivor Lisa Hart Newman, who was seven months old~~  
21 ~~at the time and was left to freeze to death with her deceased~~  
22 ~~parents by Mr. Wharton;~~ and

23 ~~WHEREAS, After his conviction, Wharton pursued a death~~  
24 ~~penalty habeas petition in the Federal district court;~~ and

25 ~~WHEREAS, The District Attorney's Office under prior~~  
26 ~~administrations had opposed this petition;~~ and

27 ~~WHEREAS, In 2019, District Attorney Krasner's administration~~  
28 ~~filed a "Notice of Concession of Penalty Phase Relief," stating~~  
29 ~~that it would not seek a new death sentence, and, based on that~~  
30 ~~sentencing relief, the litigation and appeals could end;~~ and

1       ~~WHEREAS, The concession noted only that the decision to~~  
2 ~~concede was made "[f]ollowing review of this case by the Capital~~  
3 ~~Case Review Committee of the Philadelphia [District Attorney's~~  
4 ~~Office], communication with the victims' family, and notice to~~  
5 ~~[Wharton's] counsel.";~~ and

6       ~~WHEREAS, Judge Goldberg undertook an independent analysis of~~  
7 ~~the merits of the claim and invited the Pennsylvania Office~~  
8 ~~Attorney General (OAG) to file an amicus brief in the case;~~ and

9       ~~WHEREAS, In its amicus, the OAG submitted additional facts~~  
10 ~~that the District Attorney's Office had not disclosed, including~~  
11 ~~evidence of prison misconducts, attempted escapes and Department~~  
12 ~~of Corrections concerns regarding "assaultiveness" and "escape"~~  
13 ~~by Mr. Wharton;~~ and

14       ~~WHEREAS, The OAG concluded that "given the facts of this~~  
15 ~~investigation and aggravating sentencing factors present in this~~  
16 ~~case, Wharton could not establish a reasonable probability that~~  
17 ~~the outcome of his penalty phase death sentence would have been~~  
18 ~~different if the jury had heard evidence of his alleged~~  
19 ~~'positive' prison adjustment.";~~ and

20       ~~WHEREAS, The OAG further determined that members of the~~  
21 ~~family, including victim Ms. Hart Newman, were not contacted and~~  
22 ~~that they opposed the concession by the District Attorney's~~  
23 ~~Office;~~ and

24       ~~WHEREAS, After an evidentiary hearing, Judge Goldberg held as~~  
25 ~~follows:~~

26           ~~(1) The District Attorney's Office failed to advise the~~  
27 ~~court of significant anti mitigation evidence, including that~~  
28 ~~Mr. Wharton had made an escape attempt at a court appearance.~~

29           ~~(2) Two of the office's supervisors violated Federal~~  
30 ~~Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b)(3) "based upon that Office's~~

1 ~~representations to this Court that lacked evidentiary support~~  
2 ~~and were not in any way formed after 'an inquiry reasonable~~  
3 ~~under the circumstances.'~~"

4 ~~(3) Representations of communication with the victims'~~  
5 ~~family were "misleading," "false," and "yet another~~  
6 ~~representation to the Court made after an inquiry that was~~  
7 ~~not reasonable under the circumstances."~~

8 ~~(4) The Law Division Supervisor, Assistant Supervisor~~  
9 ~~and District Attorney's Office violated Rule 11(b)(1), and~~  
10 ~~concluding that the violation was "sufficiently 'egregious'~~  
11 ~~and 'exceptional' under the circumstances to warrant~~  
12 ~~sanctions,";~~

13 and

14 ~~WHEREAS, Judge Goldberg imposed nonmonetary sanctions on the~~  
15 ~~District Attorney's Office, requiring that separate written~~  
16 ~~apologies be sent to the victim, Lisa Hart Newman, and the~~  
17 ~~victim's family members;~~ and

18 ~~WHEREAS, Given the testimony of the two Law Division~~  
19 ~~supervisors that District Attorney Krasner approved and~~  
20 ~~implemented internal procedures that created the need for this~~  
21 ~~sanction, and that the District Attorney had the sole, ultimate~~  
22 ~~authority to direct that the misleading Notice of Concession be~~  
23 ~~filed, therefore "the apologies shall come from the District~~  
24 ~~Attorney, Lawrence Krasner, personally.";~~ and

25 ~~WHEREAS, House Resolution 216 of 2022 established the House~~  
26 ~~Select Committee to Restore Law and Order pursuant to Rule 51 of~~  
27 ~~the General Operating Rules of the House;~~ and

28 ~~WHEREAS, The select committee is authorized and empowered "to~~  
29 ~~investigate, review and make finding and recommendations~~  
30 ~~concerning risking rates of crime, law enforcement and the~~

1 ~~enforcement of crime victim rights," in the City of~~  
2 ~~Philadelphia; and~~

3 ~~WHEREAS, House Resolution 216 further charges the select~~  
4 ~~committee to make findings and recommendations, including, but~~  
5 ~~not limited to, the following:~~

6 ~~(1) Determinations regarding the performance of public~~  
7 ~~officials empowered to enforce the law in the City of~~  
8 ~~Philadelphia, including the district attorney, and~~  
9 ~~recommendations for removal from office or other appropriate~~  
10 ~~discipline, including impeachment.~~

11 ~~(2) Legislation or other legislative action relating to~~  
12 ~~policing, prosecution, sentencing and any other aspect of law~~  
13 ~~enforcement.~~

14 ~~(3) Legislation or other legislative action relating to~~  
15 ~~ensuring the protection, enforcement and delivery of~~  
16 ~~appropriate services and compensation to crime victims.~~

17 ~~(4) Legislation or other legislative action relating to~~  
18 ~~ensuring the appropriate expenditure of public funds intended~~  
19 ~~for the purpose of law enforcement, prosecutions or to~~  
20 ~~benefit crime victims.~~

21 ~~(5) Other legislative action as the select committee~~  
22 ~~finds necessary to ensure appropriate enforcement of law and~~  
23 ~~order in the City of Philadelphia;~~

24 and

25 ~~WHEREAS, In pursuit of these obligations, the resolution~~  
26 ~~empowers the select committee chair to, among other things,~~  
27 ~~"send for individuals and papers and subpoena witnesses,~~  
28 ~~documents, including electronically stored information, and any~~  
29 ~~other materials under the hand and seal of the chair.";~~ and

30 ~~WHEREAS, The chair issued subpoenas to a number of~~

1 Philadelphia municipal offices, including the Controller, the  
2 Mayor, the Police Department, the Sheriff's Office, the  
3 Treasurer and the District Attorney's Office; and

4 WHEREAS, The subpoenas sought nonprivileged records necessary  
5 to fulfill the select committee's obligations to the House of  
6 Representatives pursuant to House Resolution 216; and

7 WHEREAS, While other municipal offices worked cooperatively  
8 with the select committee to respond to the subpoenas issued to  
9 them, District Attorney Krasner and his office chose instead to  
10 obstruct the select committee's work at every turn; and

11 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner and his office asserted  
12 that the select committee was illegitimate and that its  
13 subpoenas served "no valid legislative purpose, violating the  
14 separation of powers, invading legal privileges, and seeking to  
15 deny the constitutional rights of Philadelphia's citizens,  
16 especially their democratic right to vote and choose their local  
17 leaders"; and

18 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner asserted various claims  
19 that held no basis in fact or law, including the following:

20 (1) District Attorneys are not subject to impeachment.

21 (2) Impeaching the District Attorney violates the  
22 constitutional rights of the people who voted for him.

23 (3) The District Attorney committed no wrong, and  
24 therefore was not required to comply with the committee  
25 chair's subpoena.

26 (4) Impeachment of a public official requires a  
27 conviction for a criminal act;

28 and

29 WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner and his Office refused to  
30 search for or produce any documents in response to the subpoena;

1 and

2 ~~WHEREAS, Despite multiple attempts by counsel to the select~~  
3 ~~committee chair to bring District Attorney Krasner and his~~  
4 ~~office into compliance with the subpoenas, explaining on~~  
5 ~~multiple occasions that the select committee was seeking~~  
6 ~~nonprivileged records and, as it related to any record for which~~  
7 ~~the District Attorney believed were privileged, the District~~  
8 ~~Attorney should follow common practice in responding to a~~  
9 ~~subpoena by providing a privilege log to identify those records~~  
10 ~~for which the District Attorney asserts a privilege; and~~

11 ~~WHEREAS, On September 12, 2022, after multiple exchanges~~  
12 ~~between counsel and a Request to Show Cause why the District~~  
13 ~~Attorney should not be held in contempt by the House, the select~~  
14 ~~committee issued an interim report pursuant to Rule 51 of the~~  
15 ~~General Operating Rules of the House of Representatives,~~  
16 ~~notifying the House of District Attorney Krasner's refusal to~~  
17 ~~comply with the subpoena and recommending that the House~~  
18 ~~consider contempt proceedings; and~~

19 ~~WHEREAS, The House of Representatives adopted House~~  
20 ~~Resolution 227 on September 13, 2022, resolving that the House~~  
21 ~~hold District Attorney Krasner in contempt; and~~

22 ~~WHEREAS, House Resolution 227 was adopted by a bipartisan~~  
23 ~~vote of 162 to 38; and~~

24 ~~WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner filed an action in~~  
25 ~~Commonwealth Court on September 2, 2022, in which he raised the~~  
26 ~~same arguments that fail to have any meaningful basis in law or~~  
27 ~~fact; and~~

28 ~~WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner and his office have since~~  
29 ~~feigned partial compliance with the subpoena, providing several~~  
30 ~~public facing records obtained without the need to engage in any~~

1 ~~legitimate effort to search for the records; and~~

2 ~~WHEREAS, The select committee chair invited District Attorney~~  
3 ~~Krasner to testify before the select committee in executive~~  
4 ~~session on October 21, 2022; and~~

5 ~~WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner refused to testify in~~  
6 ~~executive session, demanding a public hearing instead; and~~

7 ~~WHEREAS, District Attorney Krasner then published a press~~  
8 ~~release which was misleading at best, mischaracterizing the~~  
9 ~~invitation to Krasner to testify in yet another moment of~~  
10 ~~grandstanding; and~~

11 ~~WHEREAS, Given the District Attorney's rejection of the~~  
12 ~~invitation to testify in executive session, the select committee~~  
13 ~~was compelled to cancel the hearing; and~~

14 ~~WHEREAS, Throughout the select committee's efforts to satisfy~~  
15 ~~its charge under House Resolution 216, District Attorney Krasner~~  
16 ~~steadfastly insisted that the select committee somehow had the~~  
17 ~~power to impeach him; and~~

18 ~~WHEREAS, Only the House of Representatives, as a body, has~~  
19 ~~the power of impeachment; therefore be it~~

20 ~~RESOLVED, That Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of~~  
21 ~~Philadelphia, be impeached for misbehavior in office and that~~  
22 ~~the following Articles of Impeachment be exhibited to the~~  
23 ~~Senate:~~

24 ~~ARTICLE I~~

25 ~~In its 1994 opinion in *Larsen v. Senate of Pennsylvania*, the~~  
26 ~~Commonwealth Court spoke to the meaning of the current language~~  
27 ~~"any misbehavior in office."~~

28 ~~Justice Larsen argued that the applicable standard of~~  
29 ~~"misbehavior in office" was nothing more than a codification of~~  
30 ~~the common law offense of misconduct in office, meaning "the~~

1 ~~breach of a positive statutory duty or the performance by a~~  
2 ~~public official of a discretionary act with an improper or~~  
3 ~~corrupt motive."~~

4 ~~In its opinion, the Commonwealth Court held that even if the~~  
5 ~~strict definition espoused by Larsen were the appropriate rule,~~  
6 ~~Larsen's conduct still met that heavy burden. More importantly,~~  
7 ~~however, the court said that this "strict definition . . . finds~~  
8 ~~no support in judicial precedents." In other words, there is no~~  
9 ~~precedent that the current language is so constrained. The use~~  
10 ~~of the word "any" necessarily implied a broad construction.~~

11 ~~The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office's stated mission~~  
12 ~~is to provide a voice for victims of crime and protect the~~  
13 ~~community through zealous, ethical and effective investigations~~  
14 ~~and prosecutions. District Attorney Krasner, by and through his~~  
15 ~~failed policies and procedures, and throughout the discharge of~~  
16 ~~his duties as Philadelphia's chief law enforcement officer, has~~  
17 ~~been derelict in his obligations to the victims of crime, the~~  
18 ~~people of the City of Philadelphia and of this Commonwealth.~~

19 ~~Under District Attorney Krasner's administration, and as~~  
20 ~~detailed herein, his lack of proper leadership serves as a~~  
21 ~~direct and proximate cause of the crisis currently facing the~~  
22 ~~City of Philadelphia. These policies have eviscerated the~~  
23 ~~District Attorney's Office's ability to adequately enforce the~~  
24 ~~laws of this Commonwealth; endangered the health, welfare and~~  
25 ~~safety of more than 1.5 million Pennsylvanians that reside in~~  
26 ~~Philadelphia and the tens of millions of Americans who visit the~~  
27 ~~City every year; and, have brought the Office of District~~  
28 ~~Attorney into disrepute.~~

29 ~~WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is~~  
30 ~~guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office~~

1 ~~and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under~~  
2 ~~this Commonwealth.~~

3 ~~ARTICLE II~~

4 ~~District Attorney Krasner has, at every turn, obstructed the~~  
5 ~~efforts of the House Select Committee on Restoring Law and~~  
6 ~~Order. He has consistently raised specious claims without a good~~  
7 ~~faith basis in law or fact. Even after the House of~~  
8 ~~Representatives resolved to hold him in contempt, District~~  
9 ~~Attorney Krasner's efforts to comply with subpoenas issued by~~  
10 ~~the select committee chair fall far short of what could be~~  
11 ~~described as a reasonable good faith effort.~~

12 ~~WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is~~  
13 ~~guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office~~  
14 ~~and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under~~  
15 ~~this Commonwealth.~~

16 ~~The House of Representatives hereby reserves to itself the~~  
17 ~~right and ability to exhibit at any time after adoption of this~~  
18 ~~resolution further or more detailed Articles of Impeachment~~  
19 ~~against District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner, to reply to~~  
20 ~~any answers that District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner may~~  
21 ~~make to any Articles of Impeachment which are exhibited and to~~  
22 ~~offer proof at trial in the Senate in support of each and every~~  
23 ~~Article of Impeachment which shall be exhibited by them.~~

24 ~~Upon the articles of impeachment against Lawrence Samuel~~  
25 ~~Krasner, Philadelphia District Attorney, being signed by the~~  
26 ~~Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Speaker shall~~  
27 ~~appoint a committee of three members, two from the majority~~  
28 ~~party and one from the minority party to exhibit the same to the~~  
29 ~~Senate, and on behalf of the House of Representatives to manage~~  
30 ~~the trial thereof.~~

1       WHEREAS, LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER WAS ELECTED TO THE POSITION <--  
2 OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF PHILADELPHIA ON NOVEMBER 7, 2017, AND  
3 RE-ELECTED TO THE POSITION ON NOVEMBER 2, 2021, PURSUANT TO  
4 SECTION 4 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA; AND

5       WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 4 OF ARTICLE VI OF THE  
6 CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA, ONLY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
7 AS A BODY, HAS THE POWER OF IMPEACHMENT; AND

8       WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 6 OF ARTICLE VI OF THE  
9 CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA, CIVIL OFFICERS LIKE DISTRICT  
10 ATTORNEY KRASNER MAY BE SUBJECT TO IMPEACHMENT BY THE HOUSE OF  
11 REPRESENTATIVES FOR "ANY MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE"; AND

12       WHEREAS, IN ITS 1994 OPINION IN *LARSEN V. SENATE OF*  
13 *PENNSYLVANIA*, THE COMMONWEALTH COURT SPOKE TO THE MEANING OF THE  
14 LANGUAGE "ANY MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE" IN SECTION 6 OF ARTICLE VI  
15 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA; AND

16       WHEREAS, JUSTICE LARSEN ARGUED THAT THE APPLICABLE STANDARD  
17 OF "MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE" WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A CODIFICATION  
18 OF THE COMMON LAW OFFENSE OF MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE, MEANING "THE  
19 BREACH OF A POSITIVE STATUTORY DUTY OR THE PERFORMANCE BY A  
20 PUBLIC OFFICIAL OF A DISCRETIONARY ACT WITH AN IMPROPER OR  
21 CORRUPT MOTIVE"; AND

22       WHEREAS, IN ITS OPINION, THE COMMONWEALTH COURT HELD THAT  
23 EVEN IF THE STRICT DEFINITION ESPOUSED BY LARSEN WERE THE  
24 APPROPRIATE RULE, LARSEN'S CONDUCT STILL MET THAT HEAVY BURDEN.  
25 MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOWEVER, THE COURT SAID THAT THIS "STRICT  
26 DEFINITION...FINDS NO SUPPORT IN JUDICIAL PRECEDENTS." STATED  
27 DIFFERENTLY, THERE IS NO PRECEDENT THAT THE CURRENT LANGUAGE IS  
28 SO CONSTRAINED; AND

29       WHEREAS, THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE'S STATED  
30 MISSION AND STATUTORY PURPOSE IS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO PROVIDE

1 A VOICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME, PROTECT THE COMMUNITY THROUGH  
2 ZEALOUS, ETHICAL AND EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS,  
3 AND TO UPHOLD AND PROSECUTE VIOLATIONS OF THE LAWS OF THIS  
4 COMMONWEALTH AND THE PROVISIONS OF PHILADELPHIA'S HOME RULE  
5 CHARTER; AND

6 WHEREAS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER, BY AND THROUGH HIS FAILED  
7 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, AND THROUGHOUT THE DISCHARGE OF HIS  
8 DUTIES AS PHILADELPHIA'S CHIEF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, HAS BEEN  
9 DERELICT IN HIS OBLIGATIONS TO THE VICTIMS OF CRIME, THE PEOPLE  
10 OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA AND OF THIS COMMONWEALTH AND HAS  
11 FAILED TO UPHOLD HIS OATH OF OFFICE; AND

12 WHEREAS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER IS BOUND BY THE RULES OF  
13 PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT ADOPTED BY THE SUPREME COURT, WHICH SET  
14 FORTH THE MINIMAL ETHICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL ATTORNEYS  
15 LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW IN THIS COMMONWEALTH, AS WELL AS THE  
16 CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT, WHICH IS APPLICABLE TO ALL DISTRICT  
17 ATTORNEYS IN THIS COMMONWEALTH. 16 PA. STAT. ANN. § 1401(O) ("A  
18 DISTRICT ATTORNEY SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL  
19 CONDUCT AND THE CANONS OF ETHICS AS APPLIED TO JUDGES IN THE  
20 COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH ..."); AND

21 WHEREAS, THERE HAVE BEEN MULTIPLE INCIDENTS OF DISTRICT  
22 ATTORNEY KRASNER EXHIBITING UNETHICAL CONDUCT BY LACKING CANDOR  
23 TO THE COURTS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH IN VIOLATION OF RULE OF  
24 PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT 3.3, COMMITTING PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT IN  
25 VIOLATION OF RULE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT 8.4 AND ENGAGING IN  
26 IMPROPRIETY AND OR APPEARANCES OF IMPROPRIETY IN VIOLATION OF  
27 CANON 2 OF THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT; AND

28 WHEREAS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HAS BEEN IN OFFICE SINCE  
29 JANUARY 2018. UNDER DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER'S ADMINISTRATION,  
30 AND AS DETAILED HEREIN, THE CITY HAS DESCENDED INTO AN

1 UNPRECEDENTED CRISIS OF LAWLESSNESS. BY WAY OF EXAMPLE ONLY,  
2 THERE WERE 562 MURDERS IN 2021, THE MOST IN THE 340-YEAR HISTORY  
3 OF THE CITY. UNDER DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER, MURDERS AND  
4 VIOLENCE OCCUR IN EVERY PART OF THE CITY AT EVERY HOUR OF THE  
5 DAY. SHOOTINGS ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, IN POPULATED  
6 NEIGHBORHOODS WITH FAMILIES AND CHILDREN, NEAR SCHOOLS AND IN  
7 THE CENTER CITY BUSINESS DISTRICT HAVE NOW BECOME FREQUENT AND  
8 ROUTINE. OPEN AIR DRUG MARKETS HAVE BECOME UBIQUITOUS. HE HAS  
9 DECRIMINALIZED PROSTITUTION EFFECTIVELY DESTROYING PROGRAMS  
10 DESIGNED TO RESCUE WOMEN FROM ADDICTION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING.  
11 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HAS DECRIMINALIZED RETAIL THEFT  
12 RESULTING IN NUMEROUS BUSINESSES LEAVING THE CITY. HE HAS  
13 RELEASED CRIMINALS BACK ON TO THE STREET WHO GO ON TO COMMIT  
14 EVEN MORE HEINOUS CRIMES OF MURDER, RAPE AND ROBBERY AGAINST THE  
15 PEOPLE OF PHILADELPHIA, THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF WHOM ARE  
16 AFRICAN AMERICAN. THIS CRISIS OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE IS A DIRECT  
17 RESULT OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER'S INCOMPETENCE, IDEOLOGICAL  
18 RIGIDITY AND REFUSAL TO PERFORM THE DUTIES HE SWORE TO CARRY OUT  
19 WHEN HE BECAME DISTRICT ATTORNEY. HE HAS DELIBERATELY  
20 EVISCERATED THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE'S ABILITY TO  
21 ADEQUATELY ENFORCE THE LAWS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH; ENDANGERED THE  
22 HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY OF MORE THAN 1.5 MILLION  
23 PENNSYLVANIANS THAT RESIDE IN PHILADELPHIA AND THE TENS OF  
24 MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO VISIT THE CITY EVERY YEAR; AND, HIS  
25 CONDUCT HAS BROUGHT THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND THE  
26 JUSTICE SYSTEM ITSELF INTO DISREPUTE; THEREFORE BE IT  
27       RESOLVED, THAT LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER, DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF  
28 PHILADELPHIA, BE IMPEACHED FOR MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE AND THAT  
29 THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT BE EXHIBITED TO THE SENATE  
30 PURSUANT TO SECTION 5 OF ARTICLE VI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF

1 PENNSYLVANIA:

2 ARTICLE I:

3 MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE IN THE NATURE OF DERELICTION

4 OF DUTY AND REFUSAL TO ENFORCE THE LAW

5 UPON ASSUMING OFFICE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER TERMINATED  
6 MORE THAN 30 ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS (ADA) FROM EMPLOYMENT  
7 WITH THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. MANY OF THESE  
8 TERMINATED ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS WERE SENIOR-LEVEL  
9 STAFFERS IN SUPERVISORY ROLES WHO POSSESSED SIGNIFICANT  
10 PROSECUTORIAL EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.  
11 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER REPLACED THIS VAST INSTITUTIONAL  
12 KNOWLEDGE IN THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE WITH  
13 ATTORNEYS WHO LACKED ANY MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE IN PROSECUTING  
14 CRIMINAL CASES, SOME OF WHOM ONLY RECENTLY GRADUATED FROM LAW  
15 SCHOOL.

16 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER SUBSEQUENTLY WITHDREW THE OFFICE  
17 FROM MEMBERSHIP IN THE PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT ATTORNEYS  
18 ASSOCIATION (PDAA) BECAUSE, HE ASSERTED, PDAA SUPPORTED  
19 REGRESSIVE AND PUNITIVE POLICIES. IN WITHDRAWING FROM PDAA,  
20 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER DENIED THE ATTORNEYS IN HIS OFFICE THE  
21 ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
22 AND TRAINING PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY PDAA THROUGH ITS EDUCATIONAL  
23 INSTITUTE.

24 RATHER THAN OFFERING TRADITIONAL PROSECUTORIAL TRAINING ON  
25 SUCH SUBJECTS AS PROSECUTORIAL ETHICS, HUMAN TRAFFICKING,  
26 WITNESS EXAMINATION, TRIAL ADVOCACY, TRIAL MANAGEMENT AND  
27 ACHIEVING JUSTICE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT  
28 VICTIMS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER OFFERED ATTORNEYS SEMINARS,  
29 INCLUDING "A NEW VISION FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN PHILADELPHIA,"  
30 "DEPORTATION: THE UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES OF PROSECUTION IN OUR

1 IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY," AND "PHILADELPHIA AND SAFE INJECTION: HARM  
2 REDUCTION AS PUBLIC POLICY." THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT  
3 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EVENTUALLY RETURNED TO MORE TRADITIONAL  
4 PROSECUTORIAL TRAINING, HOWEVER, THE OFFICE CONTINUED TO FOCUS  
5 ON ISSUES THAT PROMOTE DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER'S RADICALLY  
6 PROGRESSIVE PHILOSOPHIES RATHER THAN HOW TO EFFECTIVELY  
7 PROSECUTE A CRIMINAL CASE.

8 UPON BEING ELECTED TO OFFICE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER  
9 ESTABLISHED A SERIES OF OFFICE POLICIES WITH THE PURPORTED  
10 PURPOSE TO "END MASS INCARCERATION AND BRING BALANCE BACK TO  
11 SENTENCING," AND LATER ADOPTED A SERIES OF POLICIES RELATED TO  
12 CERTAIN CRIMES OR CLASSES OF PEOPLE. THESE POLICIES INCLUDE  
13 DIRECTIVES NOT TO CHARGE SEX WORKERS OR INDIVIDUALS FOR CERTAIN  
14 CLASSES OF CRIMES SUCH AS PROSTITUTION OR POSSESSION OF  
15 MARIJUANA AND MARIJUANA-RELATED DRUG PARAPHERNALIA.

16 THESE NEW POLICIES IDENTIFIED A SERIES OF OFFENSES FOR WHICH  
17 THE GRADATION MAY BE REDUCED WITH THE PURPOSE OF "REDUC[ING]  
18 PRE-TRIAL INCARCERATION RATES AS NO BAIL IS REQUIRED AND THE  
19 SHORTER TIME REQUIRED FOR HEARINGS EXPEDITES MUNICIPAL COURT AND  
20 COMMON PLEAS DOCKETS," AND REQUIRING DISPOSITION OF RETAIL THEFT  
21 CASES UNLESS THE VALUE OF THE ITEM STOLEN EXCEEDS \$500 OR WHERE  
22 THE DEFENDANT HAS AN EXTENSIVE HISTORY OF THEFT CONVICTIONS.

23 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER INSTITUTED POLICIES TO MAKE PLEA  
24 OFFERS BELOW THE BOTTOM END OF THE MITIGATED RANGE UNDER THE  
25 SENTENCING GUIDELINES FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA SENTENCING  
26 COMMISSION AND SEEK GREATER USE OF HOUSE ARREST, PROBATION AND  
27 ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING WHEN THE SENTENCING GUIDELINES INDICATE A  
28 RANGE OF INCARCERATION OF LESS THAN 24 MONTHS.

29 IN FEBRUARY 2018, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER ESTABLISHED A  
30 POLICY THAT HIS OFFICE "WILL ORDINARILY NO LONGER ASK FOR CASH

1 BAIL FOR...MISDEMEANORS AND FELONIES" LISTED IN THE POLICY,  
2 BECAUSE "[T]HE CASH BAIL SYSTEM IS RIFE WITH INJUSTICE AND  
3 EXACERBATES SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND RACIAL INEQUALITIES,  
4 DISPROPORTIONATELY PENALIZING THE POOR AND PEOPLE OF COLOR."

5 IN NOVEMBER 2018, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER ADOPTED A POLICY  
6 IN WHICH A CRIMINAL DEFENDANT'S IMMIGRATION STATUS SHOULD BE  
7 CONSIDERED IN THE PLEA-BARGAINING PROCESS, EFFECTIVELY PROVIDING  
8 THAT IF AN IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCE IS DETECTED PRE-TRIAL OR WITH  
9 RESPECT TO A SENTENCING RECOMMENDATION, COUNSEL WILL ADVISE IF  
10 AN OFFER CAN BE MADE TO AVOID THE CONSEQUENCE.

11 OTHER POLICIES THAT DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER DIRECTED WERE  
12 AS FOLLOWS:

13 (1) ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS MAY NOT PROCEED IN  
14 CASES AGAINST DEFENDANTS DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF  
15 CANNABIS WHEN THE DEFENDANTS' BLOOD "CONTAINS INACTIVE  
16 METABOLITE (11-NOR-9-CARBOXY-DELTA-9-THC) OR 4 OR FEWER  
17 NG/MLS OF PSYCHO-ACTIVE THC" AND THAT "IF THE DEFENSE  
18 PRESENTS EVIDENCE THAT CALLS IMPAIRMENT INTO QUESTION, AN ADA  
19 MAY CONSIDER DROPPING THE CHARGES AGAINST THE DEFENDANT."

20 (2) THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE "WILL ONLY OPPOSE  
21 MOTIONS FOR REDACTIONS OR EXPUNGEMENTS IN LIMITED  
22 CIRCUMSTANCES" AND SETS FORTH VARIOUS SCENARIOS IN WHICH THE  
23 OFFICE WILL AGREE TO, SEEK OR NOT OPPOSE THE EXPUNGEMENT OF A  
24 DEFENDANT'S CRIMINAL HISTORY.

25 (3) THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE DIRECTED PLEA OFFERS  
26 AND SENTENCING RECOMMENDATIONS:

27 (I) FOR FELONIES, "AIMED AT AN OFFICE-WIDE AVERAGE  
28 PERIOD OF TOTAL SUPERVISION AMONG CASES OF AROUND 18  
29 MONTHS OR LESS OF TOTAL SUPERVISION, WITH A CEILING OF 3  
30 YEARS OF TOTAL SUPERVISION OR LESS ON EACH CASE";

1 (II) FOR MISDEMEANORS, AIMED AT AN OFFICE-WIDE  
2 AVERAGE OF "6 MONTHS OR LESS OF TOTAL SUPERVISION, WITH A  
3 CEILING OF 1 YEAR";

4 (III) FOR ALL MATTERS, FOR "CONCURRENT SENTENCES";  
5 AND

6 (IV) FOR CASES INVOLVING INCARCERATION, "FOR A  
7 PERIOD OF PAROLE THAT IS NO LONGER THAN THE PERIOD OF  
8 INCARCERATION."

9 NEARLY ALL OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER'S POLICIES "CREATE A  
10 PRESUMPTION" FOR ADAS TO FOLLOW AND REQUIRE APPROVAL FROM  
11 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HIMSELF OR A FIRST ASSISTANT DISTRICT  
12 ATTORNEY FOR DEVIATIONS FROM THE POLICIES.

13 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER, IN AN APRIL 2021 REPORT PUBLISHED  
14 BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE (DAO) TITLED "ENDING MASS  
15 SUPERVISION: EVALUATING REFORMS," WROTE IN HIS OPENING LETTER:  
16 "I AM PROUD OF THE WORK THIS OFFICE HAS DONE TO MAKE  
17 PHILADELPHIANS, PARTICULARLY PHILADELPHIANS OF COLOR, FREER FROM  
18 UNNECESSARY GOVERNMENT INTRUSION, WHILE KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES  
19 SAFE." IN REALITY, THE POLICIES AND PRACTICES OF THE  
20 PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE INSTITUTED UNDER THE  
21 DIRECTION OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HAVE LED TO CATASTROPHIC  
22 CONSEQUENCES FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

23 ACCORDING TO THE CITY CONTROLLER, SPIKES IN GUN VIOLENCE AND  
24 HOMICIDES HAVE DRAMATICALLY IMPACTED HISTORICALLY DISADVANTAGED  
25 NEIGHBORHOODS, AND THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS ARE "PRIMARILY LOW-INCOME  
26 WITH PREDOMINATELY BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN RESIDENTS." THE  
27 PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT (PPD) REPORTS THAT THE NUMBER OF  
28 HOMICIDE VICTIMS HAS INCREASED EVERY YEAR SINCE 2016, MORE THAN  
29 DOUBLING FROM 2016 TO 2021, WITH A YEAR-OVER-YEAR INCREASE OF  
30 40% BETWEEN 2019 AND 2020. AS OF OCTOBER 16, 2022, THERE HAVE

1 ALREADY BEEN 430 HOMICIDES IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA IN 2022.  
2 AS OF OCTOBER 17, 2022, REPORTED TRENDS GATHERED FROM THE PPD'S  
3 "INCIDENT" DATA, WHICH TRACKS THE REPORTING OF ALL CRIMES IN  
4 ADDITION TO HOMICIDES, SHOWS A 12% INCREASE IN ALL REPORTED  
5 OFFENSES, A 6% INCREASE IN VIOLENT OFFENSES AND A 21% INCREASE  
6 IN PROPERTY OFFENSES.

7 WHILE INCIDENTS OF VIOLENT CRIME ARE INCREASING, PROSECUTION  
8 OF CRIME BY THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HAS  
9 DECREASED DURING THIS SAME PERIOD. IN 2016, THE PHILADELPHIA  
10 DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REPORTED THAT ONLY 30% OF "ALL  
11 OFFENSES" RESULTED IN A DISMISSAL OR WITHDRAWAL, BUT THAT NUMBER  
12 SPIKED TO 50% IN 2019, 54% IN 2020, 67% IN 2021 AND 65% TO DATE  
13 IN 2022.

14 A SIMILAR TREND IS EVIDENT WHEN FILTERING THE DATA FOR  
15 VIOLENT CRIMES, WHERE, IN 2016, THE WITHDRAWAL AND DISMISSED  
16 VIOLENT CRIME CASES ACCOUNTED FOR 48% OF ALL VIOLENT CRIME CASE  
17 OUTCOMES, BUT THAT PERCENTAGE INCREASED TO 60% IN 2019, TO 68%  
18 IN 2020, TO 70% IN 2021 AND TO 66% IN 2022 TO DATE. DATA FROM  
19 THE PENNSYLVANIA SENTENCING COMMISSION RELATING TO VIOLATIONS OF  
20 THE UNIFORM FIREARMS ACT (VUFA) EVIDENCES A SIMILAR JARRING  
21 TREND. THE SENTENCING COMMISSION REPORTS THAT GUILTY  
22 DISPOSITIONS IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA DECLINED FROM 88% IN  
23 2015 TO 66% IN 2020, COMPARED TO A DECLINE FROM 84% TO 72% IN  
24 COUNTIES OF THE SECOND CLASS, WITH THE DRIVER OF THE DECREASE  
25 BEING NOLLE PROS DISPOSITIONS. AS COMPARED TO THE STATEWIDE DATA  
26 AND OTHER COUNTY CLASSES, IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA THE  
27 PERCENT OF GUILTY VERDICTS HAS DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY, WHILE  
28 THE PERCENT OF NOLLE PROSSED CASES HAS INCREASED.

29 STUDIES BY THE DELAWARE VALLEY INTELLIGENCE CENTER (DVIC)  
30 ATTEMPTED TO PROVIDE "AN EXPLANATION FOR THE INCREASE IN

1 HOMICIDES AND SHOOTINGS IN AN EFFORT TO BEGIN A CONVERSATION TO  
2 ADDRESS THE CHALLENGE AT A STRATEGIC LEVEL," AND, SIGNIFICANTLY,  
3 THE REPORT NOTES:

4 "THE RATE OF PROSECUTION DISMISSAL AND WITHDRAWAL HAS BEEN  
5 INCREASE [SIC] SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE 2015 UNDER DA [SETH]  
6 WILLIAMS, AND HAS CONTINUED TO INCREASE AFTER DA KRASNER TOOK  
7 OFFICE. FURTHERMORE, A CLOSER EXAMINATION OF THESE DROPPED CASES  
8 INDICATES THAT MORE CASES ARE DISMISSED/WITHDRAWN AT THE  
9 PRELIMINARY HEARING STATE [SIC] UNDER DA KRASNER THAN THE ACTUAL  
10 TRIAL STATE []. THIS IMPLIES THAT, EVEN WHEN CRIMINALS ARE  
11 CAUGHT WITH A GUN, THEY ARE SWIFTLY FINDING OUT THEY MAY NOT  
12 RECEIVE AS SIGNIFICANT A CONSEQUENCE AS THEY HAD HISTORICALLY.  
13 NOTABLY, THE LIKELIHOOD OF BEING ARRESTED IS LOW TO BEGIN WITH.  
14 THIS MEANS THAT, CRIMINALS KNOW THAT THEIR LIKELIHOOD OF GETTING  
15 CAUGHT WITH A GUN IS SLIM AND, EVEN IF THEY GET CAUGHT, THEY  
16 FEEL THAT THEY CAN LEAVE WITHOUT SEVERE (OR ANY) CONSEQUENCES."

17 THE DVIC CONDUCTED A "CURSORY EXAMINATION" OF  
18 DISMISSED/WITHDRAWN CASES IN 2018/2019 AND "FOUND 6 OFFENDERS  
19 WHOSE CASES WERE DISMISSED (VUFA FORMER CONVICT CHARGE) AND GOT  
20 LATER INVOLVED IN SHOOTINGS...2 OF THESE SHOOTINGS WERE FATAL  
21 AND 4 OUT OF THESE 6 OFFENDERS WERE GANG MEMBERS."

22 THE DVIC STUDIED THE PROSECUTION DECLINATION FOR NARCOTICS,  
23 RETAIL THEFT AND PROSTITUTION ARRESTS FROM 2016 TO 2018, AND  
24 CONCLUDED IN ITS KEY FINDINGS THAT THE PERCENTAGE OF ALL  
25 DECLINATIONS, NOT JUST NARCOTICS, PROSTITUTION AND RETAIL THEFT,  
26 INCREASED "ESPECIALLY IN 2018" TO MORE THAN 7%, WHEN IT HAD BEEN  
27 JUST 2% OR LESS BETWEEN 2007 AND 2015.

28 IN SEPTEMBER 2020, THE PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED  
29 THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON GUN  
30 VIOLENCE PREVENTION TO STUDY GUN VIOLENCE IN THE CITY. THIS

1 STUDY INVOLVED A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE CONTROLLER'S OFFICE,  
2 DEFENDER ASSOCIATION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, DISTRICT  
3 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, MANAGING DIRECTOR'S  
4 OFFICE, PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL AND PPD. THE PUBLISHED  
5 RESULTS, CALLED THE "100 SHOOTING REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT,"  
6 DISCUSSES TRENDS AND GENERAL FINDINGS REGARDING SHOOTINGS IN THE  
7 CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. THE PUBLISHED RESULTS SHOWED THE  
8 FOLLOWING:

9 (1) THE CLEARANCE RATE (*I.E.*, WHEN AN ARREST WAS MADE OR  
10 A SUSPECT THAT COULD NOT BE ARRESTED WAS IDENTIFIED) FOR  
11 FATAL SHOOTINGS IN 2020 WAS 37% AND THE RATE FOR NONFATAL  
12 SHOOTINGS WAS 18%.

13 (2) THERE HAS BEEN A "MARKED INCREASE" IN THE NUMBER OF  
14 PEOPLE ARRESTED FOR ILLEGAL GUN POSSESSION WITHOUT THE  
15 ACCUSATION OF AN ADDITIONAL OFFENSE, INCLUDING A DOUBLING IN  
16 ARRESTS FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM WITHOUT A LICENSE  
17 SINCE 2018.

18 (3) THE INITIAL AND FINAL BAIL AMOUNTS SET BY COURTS IN  
19 ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS CASES DECLINED BETWEEN 2015  
20 AND 2019 AND INCREASED IN 2020 AND 2021.

21 (4) CONVICTION RATES IN SHOOTING CASES DECLINED BETWEEN  
22 2016 AND 2020 FROM 96% TO 80% IN FATAL SHOOTINGS AND FROM 69%  
23 TO 64% IN NONFATAL SHOOTINGS.

24 (5) THERE IS A LONG-TERM TREND OF A REDUCTION IN  
25 CONVICTION RATES FOR ILLEGAL GUN POSSESSION CASES, DROPPING  
26 FROM 65% IN 2015 TO 45% IN 2020.

27 IN AUGUST 2022, THE PHILADELPHIA POLICE COMMISSIONER  
28 INDICATED THAT HER DEPARTMENT IS SHORT-STAFFED BY APPROXIMATELY  
29 20%, OR 1,300 OFFICERS, DUE TO LOW MORALE, POLITICS, INCREASED  
30 SCRUTINY AND "UNIQUELY STRINGENT HIRING REQUIREMENTS" DURING A

1 NATIONWIDE SHORTAGE.

2 POLICE COMMISSIONER DANIELLE OUTLAW STATED, "THE TRUTH IS THE  
3 HOMICIDES ARE NOT HAPPENING IN A VACUUM - THERE ARE THOSE WHO  
4 ARE DETERMINED TO ATTACK AND KILL THEIR VICTIMS. WHILE WE ARE  
5 MAKING CONSTANT ADJUSTMENTS TO MITIGATE THIS SICKENING REALITY,  
6 OUR OFFICERS, SIMPLY PUT, JUST CAN'T KEEP UP BY BEING EVERYWHERE  
7 AT ALL TIMES." WHILE THE PPD MAY ARREST A SUSPECT FOR THE  
8 COMMISSION OF A CRIME, THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
9 OFFICE IS ONE OF THE FEW DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICES IN THIS  
10 COMMONWEALTH THAT RESERVES UNTO ITSELF THE AUTHORITY TO CHARGE A  
11 PERSON FOR A CRIMINAL ACT.

12 IN OCTOBER 2022, FOLLOWING YET ANOTHER ACT OF VIOLENCE  
13 AGAINST POLICE IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, POLICE COMMISSIONER  
14 DANIELLE OUTLAW ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

15 "WE ARE TIRED OF ARRESTING THE SAME SUSPECTS OVER AND OVER  
16 AGAIN, ONLY TO SEE THEM RIGHT BACK OUT ON THE STREET TO CONTINUE  
17 AND SOMETIMES ESCALATE THEIR CRIMINAL WAYS. WE ARE TIRED OF  
18 HAVING TO SEND OUR OFFICERS INTO HARM'S WAY TO SERVE WARRANTS ON  
19 SUSPECTS WHO HAVE NO BUSINESS BEING ON THE STREET IN THE FIRST  
20 PLACE.

21 NO - NOT EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE IN JAIL. BUT WHEN WE REPEATEDLY  
22 SEE THE EXTENSIVE CRIMINAL HISTORIES OF THOSE WE ARREST FOR  
23 VIOLENT CRIME, THE QUESTION NEEDS TO BE ASKED AS TO WHY THEY  
24 WERE YET AGAIN BACK ON THE STREET AND TERRORIZING OUR  
25 COMMUNITIES.

26 I AM BEYOND DISGUSTED BY THIS VIOLENCE. OUR ENTIRE DEPARTMENT  
27 IS SICKENED BY WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE, WORK,  
28 AND VISIT OUR CITY. RESIDENTS ARE TIRED OF IT. BUSINESS OWNERS  
29 ARE TIRED OF IT. OUR CHILDREN ARE TIRED OF IT.  
30 WE ARE LONG PAST 'ENOUGH IS ENOUGH'."

1 ACTS OF VIOLENCE, AND PARTICULARLY VIOLENT CRIMES COMMITTED  
2 WITH FIREARMS, HAVE EXACTED A HEAVY TOLL ON VICTIMS AND THEIR  
3 FAMILIES, WITH COUNTLESS LIVES UNNECESSARILY LOST OR  
4 IRRETRIEVABLY BROKEN, DUE TO THE INCREASE OF VIOLENT CRIME IN  
5 THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. THE FOREGOING ACTS CONSTITUTE  
6 "MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE" BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER IN THAT  
7 SUCH ACTS HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE INCREASE IN  
8 CRIME IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, UNDERMINED CONFIDENCE IN THE  
9 CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, AND BETRAYED THE TRUST OF THE CITIZENS  
10 OF PHILADELPHIA AND THE COMMONWEALTH.

11 WHEREFORE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER IS  
12 GUILTY OF AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE WARRANTING REMOVAL FROM OFFICE  
13 AND DISQUALIFICATION TO HOLD ANY OFFICE OF TRUST OR PROFIT UNDER  
14 THIS COMMONWEALTH.

15 ARTICLE II:

16 MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE IN THE NATURE OF OBSTRUCTION  
17 OF HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION

18 HOUSE RESOLUTION 216 OF 2022 ESTABLISHED THE HOUSE SELECT  
19 COMMITTEE TO RESTORE LAW AND ORDER PURSUANT TO RULE 51 OF THE  
20 GENERAL OPERATING RULES OF THE HOUSE. THE SELECT COMMITTEE IS  
21 AUTHORIZED AND EMPOWERED "TO INVESTIGATE, REVIEW AND MAKE  
22 FINDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING RISKING RATES OF CRIME,  
23 LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS," IN  
24 THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

25 HOUSE RESOLUTION 216 FURTHER CHARGES THE SELECT COMMITTEE TO  
26 MAKE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED  
27 TO, THE FOLLOWING:

28 (1) DETERMINATIONS REGARDING THE PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC  
29 OFFICIALS EMPOWERED TO ENFORCE THE LAW IN THE CITY OF  
30 PHILADELPHIA, INCLUDING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY, AND

1 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE OR OTHER APPROPRIATE  
2 DISCIPLINE, INCLUDING IMPEACHMENT.

3 (2) LEGISLATION OR OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION RELATING TO  
4 POLICING, PROSECUTION, SENTENCING AND ANY OTHER ASPECT OF LAW  
5 ENFORCEMENT.

6 (3) LEGISLATION OR OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION RELATING TO  
7 ENSURING THE PROTECTION, ENFORCEMENT AND DELIVERY OF  
8 APPROPRIATE SERVICES AND COMPENSATION TO CRIME VICTIMS.

9 (4) LEGISLATION OR OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION RELATING TO  
10 ENSURING THE APPROPRIATE EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC FUNDS INTENDED  
11 FOR THE PURPOSE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, PROSECUTIONS OR TO  
12 BENEFIT CRIME VICTIMS.

13 (5) OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION AS THE SELECT COMMITTEE  
14 FINDS NECESSARY TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE ENFORCEMENT OF LAW AND  
15 ORDER IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

16 IN PURSUIT OF THESE OBLIGATIONS, THE RESOLUTION EMPOWERS THE  
17 SELECT COMMITTEE CHAIR TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, "SEND FOR  
18 INDIVIDUALS AND PAPERS AND SUBPOENA WITNESSES, DOCUMENTS,  
19 INCLUDING ELECTRONICALLY STORED INFORMATION, AND ANY OTHER  
20 MATERIALS UNDER THE HAND AND SEAL OF THE CHAIR." THE CHAIR  
21 ISSUED SUBPOENAS TO A NUMBER OF PHILADELPHIA MUNICIPAL OFFICES,  
22 INCLUDING THE CONTROLLER, THE MAYOR, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE  
23 SHERIFF'S OFFICE, THE TREASURER AND THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
24 OFFICE. THE SUBPOENAS SOUGHT NONPRIVILEGED RECORDS NECESSARY TO  
25 FULFILL THE SELECT COMMITTEE'S OBLIGATIONS TO THE HOUSE OF  
26 REPRESENTATIVES PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 216.

27 WHILE OTHER MUNICIPAL OFFICES WORKED COOPERATIVELY WITH THE  
28 SELECT COMMITTEE TO RESPOND TO THE SUBPOENAS ISSUED TO THEM,  
29 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER AND HIS OFFICE CHOSE INSTEAD TO  
30 OBSTRUCT THE SELECT COMMITTEE'S WORK AT EVERY TURN. DISTRICT

1 ATTORNEY KRASNER AND HIS OFFICE ASSERTED THAT THE SELECT  
2 COMMITTEE WAS ILLEGITIMATE AND THAT ITS SUBPOENAS SERVED "NO  
3 VALID LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE, VIOLATING THE SEPARATION OF POWERS,  
4 INVADING LEGAL PRIVILEGES, AND SEEKING TO DENY THE  
5 CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF PHILADELPHIA'S CITIZENS, ESPECIALLY  
6 THEIR DEMOCRATIC RIGHT TO VOTE AND CHOOSE THEIR LOCAL LEADERS."

7 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER ASSERTED VARIOUS CLAIMS THAT HELD  
8 NO BASIS IN FACT OR LAW, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:

9 (1) DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ARE NOT SUBJECT TO IMPEACHMENT.

10 (2) IMPEACHING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY VIOLATES THE  
11 CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE WHO VOTED FOR HIM.

12 (3) THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COMMITTED NO WRONG, AND  
13 THEREFORE WAS NOT REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE COMMITTEE  
14 CHAIR'S SUBPOENA.

15 (4) IMPEACHMENT OF A PUBLIC OFFICIAL REQUIRES A  
16 CONVICTION FOR A CRIMINAL ACT; AND

17 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER AND HIS OFFICE REFUSED TO SEARCH  
18 FOR OR PRODUCE ANY DOCUMENTS IN RESPONSE TO THE SUBPOENA.  
19 DESPITE MULTIPLE ATTEMPTS BY COUNSEL TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE  
20 CHAIR TO BRING DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER AND HIS OFFICE INTO  
21 COMPLIANCE WITH THE SUBPOENAS, EXPLAINING ON MULTIPLE OCCASIONS  
22 THAT THE SELECT COMMITTEE WAS SEEKING NONPRIVILEGED RECORDS AND,  
23 AS IT RELATED TO ANY RECORD FOR WHICH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
24 BELIEVED WERE PRIVILEGED, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY SHOULD FOLLOW  
25 COMMON PRACTICE IN RESPONDING TO A SUBPOENA BY PROVIDING A  
26 PRIVILEGE LOG TO IDENTIFY THOSE RECORDS FOR WHICH THE DISTRICT  
27 ATTORNEY ASSERTS A PRIVILEGE.

28 ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2022, AFTER MULTIPLE EXCHANGES BETWEEN  
29 COUNSEL AND A REQUEST TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
30 SHOULD NOT BE HELD IN CONTEMPT BY THE HOUSE, THE SELECT

1 COMMITTEE ISSUED AN INTERIM REPORT PURSUANT TO RULE 51 OF THE  
2 GENERAL OPERATING RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
3 NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER'S REFUSAL TO  
4 COMPLY WITH THE SUBPOENA AND RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE  
5 CONSIDER CONTEMPT PROCEEDINGS.

6 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ADOPTED HOUSE RESOLUTION 227 ON  
7 SEPTEMBER 13, 2022, RESOLVING THAT THE HOUSE HOLD DISTRICT  
8 ATTORNEY KRASNER IN CONTEMPT. HOUSE RESOLUTION 227 WAS ADOPTED  
9 BY A BIPARTISAN VOTE OF 162 TO 38.

10 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER FILED AN ACTION IN COMMONWEALTH  
11 COURT ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2022, IN WHICH HE RAISED THE SAME  
12 ARGUMENTS THAT FAIL TO HAVE ANY MEANINGFUL BASIS IN LAW OR FACT.  
13 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER AND HIS OFFICE HAVE SINCE FEIGNED  
14 PARTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE SUBPOENA, PROVIDING SEVERAL PUBLIC-  
15 FACING RECORDS OBTAINED WITHOUT THE NEED TO ENGAGE IN ANY  
16 LEGITIMATE EFFORT TO SEARCH FOR THE RECORDS.

17 THE SELECT COMMITTEE CHAIR INVITED DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER  
18 TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE SELECT COMMITTEE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON  
19 OCTOBER 21, 2022. DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER REFUSED TO TESTIFY  
20 IN EXECUTIVE SESSION, DEMANDING A PUBLIC HEARING INSTEAD.  
21 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER THEN PUBLISHED A PRESS RELEASE WHICH  
22 WAS MISLEADING AT BEST, MISCHARACTERIZING THE INVITATION TO  
23 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER TO TESTIFY IN YET ANOTHER MOMENT OF  
24 GRANDSTANDING.

25 GIVEN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S REJECTION OF THE INVITATION TO  
26 TESTIFY IN EXECUTIVE SESSION, THE SELECT COMMITTEE WAS COMPELLED  
27 TO CANCEL THE HEARING.

28 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HAS, AT EVERY TURN, OBSTRUCTED THE  
29 EFFORTS OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESTORING LAW AND  
30 ORDER. HE HAS CONSISTENTLY RAISED SPECIOUS CLAIMS WITHOUT A GOOD

1 FAITH BASIS IN LAW OR FACT. EVEN AFTER THE HOUSE OF  
2 REPRESENTATIVES RESOLVED TO HOLD HIM IN CONTEMPT, DISTRICT  
3 ATTORNEY KRASNER'S EFFORTS TO COMPLY WITH SUBPOENAS ISSUED BY  
4 THE SELECT COMMITTEE CHAIR FALL FAR SHORT OF WHAT CAN BE  
5 CONSIDERED A REASONABLE GOOD FAITH EFFORT.

6 WHEREFORE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER IS  
7 GUILTY OF AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE WARRANTING REMOVAL FROM OFFICE  
8 AND DISQUALIFICATION TO HOLD ANY OFFICE OF TRUST OR PROFIT UNDER  
9 THIS COMMONWEALTH.

10 ARTICLE III:

11 MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE IN THE NATURE OF VIOLATION OF  
12 THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND CODE OF  
13 JUDICIAL CONDUCT; SPECIFICALLY RULE 3.3 CANDOR TOWARD  
14 THE TRIBUNAL, RULE 8.4 PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT, AND  
15 CANON 2 OF THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT IMPROPRIETY  
16 AND APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY IN THE MATTER  
17 OF *ROBERT WHARTON V. DONALD T. VAUGHN*

18 IN THE FEDERAL HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDING IN *ROBERT WHARTON V.*  
19 *DONALD T. VAUGHN*, FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGE GOLDBERG ISSUED A  
20 MEMORANDUM ORDER ADMONISHING AND SANCTIONING THE DISTRICT  
21 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. ROBERT WHARTON WAS CONVICTED OF MURDERING THE  
22 PARENTS OF SURVIVOR LISA HART-NEWMAN, WHO WAS SEVEN MONTHS OLD  
23 AT THE TIME AND WAS LEFT TO FREEZE TO DEATH WITH HER DECEASED  
24 PARENTS BY MR. WHARTON.

25 AFTER HIS CONVICTION, WHARTON PURSUED A DEATH PENALTY HABEAS  
26 PETITION IN THE FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT. THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
27 OFFICE UNDER PRIOR ADMINISTRATIONS HAD OPPOSED THIS PETITION.

28 IN 2019, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER'S ADMINISTRATION FILED A  
29 "NOTICE OF CONCESSION OF PENALTY PHASE RELIEF," STATING THAT IT  
30 WOULD NOT SEEK A NEW DEATH SENTENCE, AND, BASED ON THAT

1 SENTENCING RELIEF, THE LITIGATION AND APPEALS COULD END. THE  
2 CONCESSION NOTED ONLY THAT THE DECISION TO CONCEDE WAS MADE  
3 "[F]OLLOWING REVIEW OF THIS CASE BY THE CAPITAL CASE REVIEW  
4 COMMITTEE OF THE PHILADELPHIA [DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE],  
5 COMMUNICATION WITH THE VICTIMS' FAMILY, AND NOTICE TO  
6 [WHARTON'S] COUNSEL."

7 JUDGE GOLDBERG UNDERTOOK AN INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS OF THE  
8 MERITS OF THE CLAIM AND INVITED THE PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE ATTORNEY  
9 GENERAL (OAG) TO FILE AN AMICUS BRIEF IN THE CASE. IN ITS  
10 AMICUS, THE OAG SUBMITTED ADDITIONAL FACTS THAT THE DISTRICT  
11 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HAD NOT DISCLOSED, INCLUDING EVIDENCE OF  
12 PRISON MISCONDUCTS, ATTEMPTED ESCAPES AND DEPARTMENT OF  
13 CORRECTIONS CONCERNS REGARDING "ASSAULTIVENESS" AND "ESCAPE" BY  
14 MR. WHARTON.

15 THE OAG CONCLUDED THAT "GIVEN THE FACTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION  
16 AND AGGRAVATING SENTENCING FACTORS PRESENT IN THIS CASE, WHARTON  
17 COULD NOT ESTABLISH A REASONABLE PROBABILITY THAT THE OUTCOME OF  
18 HIS PENALTY PHASE DEATH SENTENCE WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF  
19 THE JURY HAD HEARD EVIDENCE OF HIS ALLEGED 'POSITIVE' PRISON  
20 ADJUSTMENT."

21 THE OAG FURTHER DETERMINED THAT MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY,  
22 INCLUDING VICTIM MS. HART-NEWMAN, WERE NOT CONTACTED AND THAT  
23 THEY OPPOSED THE CONCESSION BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

24 AFTER AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING, JUDGE GOLDBERG HELD AS FOLLOWS:

25 (1) THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FAILED TO ADVISE THE  
26 COURT OF SIGNIFICANT ANTI-MITIGATION EVIDENCE, INCLUDING THAT  
27 MR. WHARTON HAD MADE AN ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT A COURT APPEARANCE.

28 (2) TWO OF THE OFFICE'S SUPERVISORS VIOLATED FEDERAL  
29 RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 11(B)(3) "BASED UPON THAT OFFICE'S  
30 REPRESENTATIONS TO THIS COURT THAT LACKED EVIDENTIARY SUPPORT

1 AND WERE NOT IN ANY WAY FORMED AFTER 'AN INQUIRY REASONABLE  
2 UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.'

3 (3) REPRESENTATIONS OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE VICTIMS'  
4 FAMILY WERE "MISLEADING," "FALSE," AND "YET ANOTHER  
5 REPRESENTATION TO THE COURT MADE AFTER AN INQUIRY THAT WAS  
6 NOT REASONABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES."

7 (4) THE LAW DIVISION SUPERVISOR, ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR  
8 AND DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE VIOLATED RULE 11(B)(1), AND  
9 CONCLUDING THAT THE VIOLATION WAS "SUFFICIENTLY 'EGREGIOUS'  
10 AND 'EXCEPTIONAL' UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES TO WARRANT  
11 SANCTIONS."

12 JUDGE GOLDBERG IMPOSED NONMONETARY SANCTIONS ON THE DISTRICT  
13 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, REQUIRING THAT SEPARATE WRITTEN APOLOGIES BE  
14 SENT TO THE VICTIM, LISA HART-NEWMAN, AND THE VICTIM'S FAMILY  
15 MEMBERS. GIVEN THE TESTIMONY OF THE TWO LAW DIVISION SUPERVISORS  
16 THAT DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED INTERNAL  
17 PROCEDURES THAT CREATED THE NEED FOR THIS SANCTION, AND THAT THE  
18 DISTRICT ATTORNEY HAD THE SOLE, ULTIMATE AUTHORITY TO DIRECT  
19 THAT THE MISLEADING NOTICE OF CONCESSION BE FILED, THEREFORE  
20 "THE APOLOGIES SHALL COME FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY, LAWRENCE  
21 KRASNER, PERSONALLY."

22 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HAS THE SOLE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE  
23 COURT FILINGS ON BEHALF OF PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
24 OFFICE. WHILE IN OFFICE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER DIRECTED,  
25 APPROVED AND OR PERMITTED THE FILING OF A "NOTICE OF  
26 CONCESSION" AND PRESENTATION OF OTHER PLEADINGS AND STATEMENTS  
27 IN FEDERAL COURT WHICH CONTAINED MATERIALLY FALSE AND OR  
28 MISLEADING AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENTS AND PURPOSEFUL OMISSIONS OF  
29 FACT IN VIOLATION OF THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, RULE 3.3  
30 (CANDOR TOWARD THE TRIBUNAL) AND RULE 8.4 (PROFESSIONAL

1 MISCONDUCT), AND CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT, CANON 2 (IMPROPRIETY  
2 AND OR APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY).

3 WHEREFORE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER IS  
4 GUILTY OF AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE WARRANTING REMOVAL FROM OFFICE  
5 AND DISQUALIFICATION TO HOLD ANY OFFICE OF TRUST OR PROFIT UNDER  
6 THIS COMMONWEALTH.

7 ARTICLE IV:

8 MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE IN THE NATURE OF VIOLATION OF  
9 THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT; SPECIFICALLY  
10 RULE 3.3 CANDOR TOWARD THE TRIBUNAL, RULE 8.4  
11 PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT, AND CANON 2 OF THE CODE  
12 OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT IMPROPRIETY AND APPEARANCE OF  
13 IMPROPRIETY IN THE MATTER OF *COMMONWEALTH VS. POWNALL*  
14 IN HIS SPECIAL CONCURRENCE IN *COMMONWEALTH V. POWNALL*,  
15 SUPREME COURT JUSTICE DOUGHERTY HIGHLIGHTED WHAT HE FEARED TO BE  
16 AN EFFORT BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE TO DEPRIVE CERTAIN  
17 DEFENDANTS OF A FAIR AND SPEEDY TRIAL. FOLLOWING THE JUNE 2017  
18 INCIDENT IN WHICH FORMER PHILADELPHIA POLICE OFFICER RYAN  
19 POWNALL SHOT AND KILLED DAVID JONES, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
20 OFFICE SUBMITTED THE MATTER TO AN INVESTIGATIVE GRAND JURY. THE  
21 INVESTIGATING GRAND JURY ISSUED A PRESENTMENT RECOMMENDING THAT  
22 POWNALL BE CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL HOMICIDE, POSSESSION OF AN  
23 INSTRUMENT OF CRIME AND RECKLESSLY ENDANGERING ANOTHER PERSON;  
24 AND

25 DURING TRIAL, THE PROSECUTOR FILED A MOTION IN LIMINE TO  
26 PRECLUDE THE STANDARD PEACE OFFICER JUSTIFICATION DEFENSE  
27 INSTRUCTION, BASED ON THE ASSERTION THAT THE INSTRUCTION, WHICH  
28 LARGELY TRACKED LANGUAGE OF STATUTE, VIOLATED FOURTH AMENDMENT  
29 PROHIBITION AGAINST UNREASONABLE SEARCH AND SEIZURE. THE MOTION  
30 WAS DENIED AND THE PROSECUTION APPEALED TO THE SUPERIOR COURT,

1 WHICH QUASHED THE APPEAL AS UNAUTHORIZED. THE SUPREME COURT  
2 GRANTED THE PROSECUTOR'S REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE OF APPEAL.

3 THE SUPREME COURT ULTIMATELY DENIED THE APPEAL, BUT THE  
4 SPECIAL CONCURRENCE FILED BY JUSTICE DOUGHERTY ILLUMINATED  
5 STARTLING BEHAVIOR BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. JUSTICE  
6 DOUGHERTY HELD THAT THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE'S ACTIONS  
7 DURING GRAND JURY PROCESS "IMPLICATE[S] A POTENTIAL ABUSE" AND  
8 STATED THAT "THE PRESENTMENT IN THIS CASE IS PERHAPS BEST  
9 CHARACTERIZED AS A 'FOUL BLOW.'" HE REFERRED TO THE GRAND JURY  
10 PRESENTMENT, AUTHORED BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, AS A  
11 "GRATUITOUS NARRATIVE."

12 JUSTICE DOUGHERTY ALSO RECOGNIZED THAT ANY ABUSE OF THE GRAND  
13 JURY COULD HAVE BEEN REMEDIED BY "STATUTORY SAFEGUARDS EMBEDDED  
14 IN THE PROCESS," SUCH AS A PRELIMINARY HEARING. HE WENT ON TO  
15 SAY "WHAT IS TROUBLING IS THE DAO'S EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT WOULD  
16 NOT OCCUR," *I.E.*, THEIR FILING OF A MOTION TO BYPASS THE  
17 PRELIMINARY HEARING.

18 JUSTICE DOUGHERTY FOUND IT "INEXPLICABLE" THAT, IN PRESENTING  
19 A BYPASS MOTION TO THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, THE DISTRICT  
20 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FAILED TO HIGHLIGHT THE INVESTIGATING GRAND  
21 JURY ACT SECTION 4551(E), WHICH DIRECTS THAT A DEFENDANT "SHALL"  
22 BE ENTITLED TO A PRELIMINARY HEARING. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE  
23 DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE "APPEAR[ED] TO HAVE KNOWN [ABOUT THAT  
24 REQUIREMENT] AT THE TIME IT FILED ITS MOTION."

25 AS IT RELATED TO THE PROSECUTOR'S MOTION IN LIMINE AND  
26 INTERLOCUTORY APPEAL, JUSTICE DOUGHERTY OBSERVED THAT THE  
27 DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE'S MOTION "PRESENTED ONLY HALF THE  
28 RELEVANT PICTURE." HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT "THIS TYPE OF ADVOCACY  
29 WOULD BE WORRISOME COMING FROM ANY LITIGANT," BUT COMING FROM A  
30 PROSECUTOR, "IS EVEN MORE CONCERNING, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF

1 THE MOTION'S TIMING...." HE CITED DIRECTLY TO PENNSYLVANIA RULE  
2 OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT 3.3 REGARDING CANDOR TO THE TRIBUNAL.

3 FURTHER REFERENCING ETHICAL CONCERNS, JUSTICE DOUGHERTY FOUND  
4 THAT THE TIMING OF THE MOTION IN LIMINE, "[W]HEN COMBINED WITH  
5 THE OTHER TACTICS HIGHLIGHTED THROUGHOUT THIS CONCURRENCE,"  
6 COULD LEAD TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE DECISION TO TAKE "AN  
7 UNAUTHORIZED INTERLOCUTORY APPEAL WAS INTENDED TO DEPRIVE [MR.  
8 POWNALL] OF A FAIR AND SPEEDY TRIAL." JUSTICE DOUGHERTY WENT ON  
9 TO SAY:

10 NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME BEFORE THIS COURT, THE DAO FINALLY  
11 ADMITS ITS TRUE INTENT IN ALL THIS WAS SIMPLY TO USE  
12 POWNALL'S CASE AS A VEHICLE TO FORCE JUDICIAL DETERMINATION  
13 ON 'WHETHER SECTION 508(A) (1) IS FACIALLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL.'  
14 DAO'S REPLY BRIEF AT 1; SEE ID. AT 6 (ASSERTING SECTION 508'S  
15 APPLICABILITY TO [POWNALL] IS NOT THE SUBJECT OF THIS  
16 APPEAL"). WHAT'S MORE, DESPITE HAVING ASSURED THE TRIAL COURT  
17 IT WAS NOT TRYING 'TO BAR [POWNALL] FROM A DEFENSE[.]' N.T.  
18 11/25/2019 AT 8, THE DAO NOW BOLDLY ASSERTS IT WOULD BE  
19 APPROPRIATE FOR THIS COURT TO REWRITE THE LAW AND  
20 RETROACTIVELY APPLY IT TO POWNALL'S CASE BECAUSE HE  
21 SUPPOSEDLY 'HAD FAIR NOTICE OF HIS INABILITY TO RELY ON THIS  
22 UNCONSTITUTIONAL DEFENSE[.]' DAO'S BRIEF AT 10.

23 JUSTICE DOUGHERTY CONCLUDED, "LITTLE THAT HAS HAPPENED IN  
24 THIS CASE UP TO THIS POINT REFLECTS PROCEDURAL JUSTICE. ON THE  
25 CONTRARY, THE DAO'S PROSECUTION OF POWNALL APPEARS TO BE "DRIVEN  
26 BY A WIN-AT-ALL-COST OFFICE CULTURE" THAT TREATS POLICE OFFICERS  
27 DIFFERENTLY THAN OTHER CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS. DAO CONVICTION  
28 INTEGRITY UNIT REPORT, OVERTURNING CONVICTIONS - AND AN ERA 2  
29 (JUNE 15, 2021) AVAILABLE AT TINYURL.COM/CIU REPORT (LAST  
30 VISITED JULY 19, 2022). THIS IS THE ANTITHESIS OF WHAT THE LAW

1 EXPECTS OF A PROSECUTOR."

2 ON REMAND, COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE MCDERMOTT SAID THAT THERE  
3 WERE "SO MANY THINGS WRONG" WITH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
4 OFFICE'S INSTRUCTIONS TO THE INVESTIGATING GRAND JURY THAT IT  
5 WARRANTED DISMISSING ALL CHARGES AGAINST MR. POWNALL. AFTER  
6 HEARING TESTIMONY FROM THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS WHO  
7 HANDLED THE GRAND JURY AND PREPARATION OF THE PRESENTMENT, JUDGE  
8 MCDERMOTT CONCLUDED THAT THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FAILED  
9 TO PROVIDE THE LEGAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE GRAND JURORS ON THE  
10 DEFINITIONS FOR HOMICIDE AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE USE-OF-  
11 FORCE DEFENSE.

12 IN HER OCTOBER 17, 2022, STATEMENT OF FINDINGS OF FACT AND  
13 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, JUDGE MCDERMOTT STATED, "THE COMMONWEALTH  
14 MADE AN INTENTIONAL, DELIBERATE CHOICE NOT TO INFORM THE GRAND  
15 JURORS ABOUT THE JUSTIFICATION DEFENSE UNDER SECTION 508. WHILE  
16 [THE ADA] WAS AWARE OF SECTION 508 AND ITS APPLICABILITY TO THE  
17 DEFENDANT'S CASE AT THE TIME OF THE GRAND JURY PROCEEDINGS, SHE  
18 DECIDED NOT TO ADVISE THE GRAND JURY ABOUT SECTION 508 AFTER  
19 CONSULTING WITH OTHER, MORE SENIOR ASSISTANT DISTRICT  
20 ATTORNEYS."

21 AS IT RELATED TO POWNALL'S RIGHT TO A PRELIMINARY HEARING,  
22 JUDGE MCDERMOTT WROTE:

23 IN ITS MOTION TO BYPASS THE PRELIMINARY HEARING, THE  
24 COMMONWEALTH DEMONSTRATED A LACK OF CANDOR TO THE COURT BY  
25 MISSTATING THE LAW AND PROVIDING JUDGE COLEMAN WITH INCORRECT  
26 CASE LAW.

27 \* \* \*

28 THE COMMONWEALTH WAS ALSO DISINGENUOUS WITH THE COURT  
29 WHEN IT ASSERTED THAT IT HAD GOOD CAUSE TO BYPASS THE  
30 PRELIMINARY HEARING UNDER PA.R.CRIM.P. 565(A) BECAUSE OF THE

1 COMPLEXITY OF THE CASE, THE LARGE NUMBER OF WITNESSES THE  
2 COMMONWEALTH WOULD HAVE TO CALL, THE EXPENSE, AND THE DELAY  
3 CAUSED BY A PRELIMINARY HEARING. AS A PRELIMINARY HEARING WAS  
4 NOT HELD IN THIS CASE, THE DEFENDANT'S DUE PROCESS RIGHTS  
5 WERE VIOLATED AND THE DEFENDANT SUFFERED PREJUDICE.

6 JUDGE MCDERMOTT TOLD THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE THAT IF  
7 DEFENSE COUNSEL HAD MADE THE DECISIONS THAT THE DISTRICT  
8 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MADE, SHE WOULD "DECLARE THEM INCOMPETENT."  
9 THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE'S OWN EXPERT REPORT FROM GREGORY  
10 A. WARREN, ED.D., OF AMERICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND  
11 CONSULTING CONCLUDED THAT, GIVEN ALL THE FACTS PRESENTED TO HIM,  
12 OFFICER POWNALL'S "USE OF DEADLY FORCE IN THIS CASE WAS  
13 JUSTIFIED." THIS EXPERT REPORT WAS WITHHELD FROM POWNALL BY THE  
14 DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

15 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HAS THE SOLE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE  
16 COURT FILINGS ON BEHALF OF PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
17 OFFICE. WHILE IN OFFICE DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER DIRECTED,  
18 APPROVED AND OR PERMITTED THE FILING OF MOTIONS, PRESENTATIONS  
19 OF OTHER PLEADINGS AND STATEMENTS TO THE GRAND JURY AND THE  
20 COURT WHICH INTENTIONALLY OMITTED, CONCEALED AND OR WITHHELD  
21 MATERIAL FACTS AND LEGAL AUTHORITY RELEVANT TO THE JUDICIAL  
22 PROCEEDINGS IN VIOLATION OF THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT,  
23 RULE 3.3 (CANDOR TOWARD THE TRIBUNAL), RULE 8.4 (PROFESSIONAL  
24 MISCONDUCT) AND CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT, CANON 2 (IMPROPRIETY  
25 AND OR APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY).

26 WHEREFORE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER IS  
27 GUILTY OF AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE WARRANTING REMOVAL FROM OFFICE  
28 AND DISQUALIFICATION TO HOLD ANY OFFICE OF TRUST OR PROFIT UNDER  
29 THIS COMMONWEALTH.

30 ARTICLE V:

1 MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE IN THE NATURE OF VIOLATION OF  
2 THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND CODE OF  
3 JUDICIAL CONDUCT; SPECIFICALLY RULE 3.3 CANDOR TO  
4 TRIBUNAL, RULE 8.4 PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT, AND CANON  
5 2 OF THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT IMPROPRIETY AND  
6 APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY IN THE MATTER IN  
7 RE: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OF PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT  
8 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

9 DURING SWORN TESTIMONY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER WITHHELD  
10 MATERIAL FACTS FROM THE SUPREME COURT WHEN HE TESTIFIED UNDER  
11 OATH BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT'S SPECIAL MASTER. THE SPECIAL  
12 MASTER WAS APPOINTED BY THE SUPREME COURT PURSUANT TO ITS KING'S  
13 BENCH JURISDICTION TO INVESTIGATE WHETHER DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
14 KRASNER HAD A CONFLICT OF INTEREST FAVORING THE DEFENDANT AND  
15 APPELLANT, MUMIA ABU-JAMAL, WHO HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF FIRST-  
16 DEGREE MURDER OF OFFICER DANIEL FAULKNER. DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
17 KRASNER TESTIFIED THAT HE "NEVER REPRESENTED ANY ADVOCACY  
18 ORGANIZATION FOR MUMIA ABU-JAMAL."

19 WHILE AFFIRMATIVELY STATING HE NEVER REPRESENTED AN  
20 "ORGANIZATION" WHICH ADVOCATED FOR MUMIA ABU-JAMAL, DISTRICT  
21 ATTORNEY KRASNER OMITTED THE FACT THAT HE HAD, IN FACT,  
22 REPRESENTED AT LEAST ONE PRO-MUMIA ACTIVIST WHO WAS ARRESTED FOR  
23 SEEKING TO INTIMIDATE THE JUDGE DECIDING ABU-JAMAL'S POST  
24 CONVICTION RELIEF ACT ("PCRA") PETITION. THAT ACTIVIST, WHO AT  
25 THE TIME WAS THE "DIRECTOR" OF THE "YOUTH ACTION COALITION," WAS  
26 ARRESTED ALONG-SIDE LOCAL LEADERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONCERNED  
27 FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF MUMIA ABU-JAMAL, ALL OF WHOM WERE  
28 PROTESTING OUTSIDE THE HOME OF ABU-JAMAL'S PCRA JUDGE IN AN  
29 EFFORT TO ILLEGALLY INFLUENCE THE VERY PROCEEDINGS AT ISSUE IN  
30 MUMIA ABU-JAMAL'S NUNC PRO TUNC APPEAL.

1 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER REPRESENTED THIS "DIRECTOR," AND  
2 POTENTIALLY OTHER PRO-MUMIA ACTIVISTS, AGAINST CHARGES FOR  
3 VIOLATING A CRIMINAL STATUTE THAT PROHIBITS PROTESTING OUTSIDE  
4 THE HOMES OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS TO INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME OF CASES  
5 PENDING BEFORE THE JUDICIAL OFFICERS. YET, IN TESTIFYING THAT HE  
6 "NEVER REPRESENTED ANY ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION FOR MUMIA ABU-  
7 JAMAL," DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER OMITTED THESE MATERIAL FACTS,  
8 PROVIDING A PARTIAL AND MISLEADING DISCLOSURE REGARDING HIS  
9 CONNECTION TO THE EFFORT TO EXONERATE AND FREE MUMIA ABU-JAMAL.  
10 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER'S MISLEADING DISCLOSURE WAS DIRECTLY  
11 RELEVANT TO THE SUBJECT MATTER UNDER INVESTIGATION BY THE  
12 SUPREME COURT IN THAT HE WAS CONCEALING MATERIAL FACTS  
13 CONCERNING HIS CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN THE MUMIA ABU-JAMAL  
14 MATTER, AN ISSUE AT THE VERY HEART OF THE SUPREME COURT'S REVIEW  
15 OF THE KING'S BENCH PETITION FILED BY THE WIDOW OF OFFICER  
16 FAULKNER. DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER THEREFORE VIOLATED RULES OF  
17 PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, RULE 3.3 (CANDOR TOWARD THE TRIBUNAL),  
18 RULE 8.4 (PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT) AND CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT,  
19 CANON 2 (IMPROPRIETY AND OR APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY).

20 WHEREFORE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER IS  
21 GUILTY OF AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE WARRANTING REMOVAL FROM OFFICE  
22 AND DISQUALIFICATION TO HOLD ANY OFFICE OF TRUST OR PROFIT UNDER  
23 THIS COMMONWEALTH.

24 ARTICLE VI:

25 MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE IN NATURE OF

26 VIOLATION OF VICTIMS RIGHTS

27 FEDERAL AND STATE LAW PROVIDES FOR CERTAIN RIGHTS FOR VICTIMS  
28 RELATED TO THE PROSECUTION AND SENTENCING OF THE DEFENDANTS WHO  
29 VICTIMIZED THEM OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS (18 U.S.C. § 3771 (B) (2)  
30 (A) AND SECTION 201 OF THE ACT OF NOVEMBER 24, 1998 (P.L.882,

1 NO.111), KNOWN AS THE CRIME VICTIMS ACT). CHIEF AMONG THE RIGHTS  
2 PROVIDED TO VICTIMS IS THE RIGHT TO BE KEPT INFORMED AT ALL  
3 STAGES OF THE PROSECUTION THROUGH CLEAR, RESPECTFUL AND HONEST  
4 COMMUNICATION AND TO BE CONSULTED WITH REGARD TO SENTENCING.  
5 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER REPEATEDLY VIOLATED, AND ALLOWED  
6 ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS UNDER HIS SUPERVISION TO VIOLATE,  
7 THE FEDERAL AND STATE VICTIMS' RIGHTS ACTS ON MULTIPLE OCCASIONS  
8 BY SPECIFICALLY FAILING TO TIMELY CONTACT VICTIMS, DELIBERATELY  
9 MISLEADING VICTIMS AND OR DISREGARDING VICTIM INPUT AND TREATING  
10 VICTIMS WITH CONTEMPT AND DISRESPECT.

11 WHEREFORE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER IS  
12 GUILTY OF AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE WARRANTING REMOVAL FROM OFFICE  
13 AND DISQUALIFICATION TO HOLD ANY OFFICE OF TRUST OR PROFIT UNDER  
14 THIS COMMONWEALTH.

15 ARTICLE VII:

16 MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE IN THE NATURE OF VIOLATION  
17 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA BY USURPATION  
18 OF THE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTION

19 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE II OF THE CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
20 THE LEGISLATIVE POWER IS VESTED IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.  
21 DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER AS AN ELECTED EXECUTIVE IN THE CITY OF  
22 PHILADELPHIA HAS NO AUTHORITY TO CREATE, REPEAL OR AMEND ANY  
23 STATE LAW. DESPITE THIS CLEAR SEPARATION OF POWERS, DISTRICT  
24 ATTORNEY KRASNER HAS CONTRAVENED THE AUTHORITY OF THE  
25 LEGISLATURE BY REFUSING TO PROSECUTE SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED  
26 CONDUCT UNDER STATE LAW. RATHER THAN EXERCISING HIS INHERENT  
27 DISCRETIONARY POWERS TO REVIEW AND DETERMINE CHARGES ON A CASE-  
28 BY-CASE BASIS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE  
29 COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,  
30 UNILATERALLY DETERMINED, DIRECTED AND ENSURED THAT CERTAIN

1 CRIMES WOULD NO LONGER BE PROSECUTED AND WERE THEREFORE DE FACTO  
2 LEGAL.

3 THESE CRIMES INCLUDE PROSTITUTION, THEFT AND DRUG-RELATED  
4 OFFENSES, AMONG OTHERS. IN PARTICULAR, THE *DE FACTO* LEGALIZATION  
5 OF PROSTITUTION BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HAS HAD A  
6 DEVASTATING IMPACT ON WOMEN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING  
7 AND THE COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY ARE TRAFFICKED. REFUSING TO  
8 PROSECUTE RETAIL THEFT OF PROPERTY WITH LESS THAN A VALUE OF  
9 \$500, DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER HAS CREATED AN ATMOSPHERE OF  
10 LAWLESSNESS IN PHILADELPHIA, WITH THE DIRECT EFFECT OF CAUSING  
11 BUSINESSES TO CURTAIL ACTIVITY OR CEASE DOING BUSINESS  
12 ALTOGETHER IN PHILADELPHIA. DISTRICT ATTORNEY KRASNER'S REFUSAL  
13 TO PROSECUTE THOSE CAUGHT DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF  
14 MARIJUANA, ASIDE FROM CONTRIBUTING TO THE LAWLESSNESS IN THE  
15 CITY, HAS CREATED DANGEROUS SITUATIONS FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY  
16 AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE IN PHILADELPHIA. DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
17 KRASNER *DE FACTO* LEGALIZING SUCH ACTS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
18 HAS DETERMINED TO BE ILLEGAL IS A CLEAR USURPATION OF  
19 LEGISLATIVE POWERS IN VIOLATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF  
20 PENNSYLVANIA, AND THUS CONSTITUTES MISBEHAVIOR IN OFFICE.

21 WHEREFORE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER IS  
22 GUILTY OF AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE WARRANTING REMOVAL FROM OFFICE  
23 AND DISQUALIFICATION TO HOLD ANY OFFICE OF TRUST OR PROFIT UNDER  
24 THIS COMMONWEALTH.

25 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HEREBY RESERVES TO ITSELF THE  
26 RIGHT AND ABILITY TO EXHIBIT AT ANY TIME AFTER ADOPTION OF THIS  
27 RESOLUTION FURTHER OR MORE DETAILED ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT  
28 AGAINST DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER, TO REPLY TO  
29 ANY ANSWERS THAT DISTRICT ATTORNEY LAWRENCE SAMUEL KRASNER MAY  
30 MAKE TO ANY ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT WHICH ARE EXHIBITED AND TO

1 OFFER PROOF AT TRIAL IN THE SENATE IN SUPPORT OF EACH AND EVERY  
2 ARTICLE OF IMPEACHMENT WHICH SHALL BE EXHIBITED BY THEM.

3 UPON THE ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST LAWRENCE SAMUEL  
4 KRASNER, PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BEING SIGNED BY THE  
5 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SPEAKER SHALL  
6 APPOINT A COMMITTEE OF THREE MEMBERS, TWO FROM THE MAJORITY  
7 PARTY AND ONE FROM THE MINORITY PARTY, TO EXHIBIT THE SAME TO  
8 THE SENATE, AND ON BEHALF OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO  
9 MANAGE THE TRIAL THEREOF.

10 THE EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE PAID BY THE CHIEF  
11 CLERK FROM APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS UNDER THE CHIEF CLERK'S  
12 EXCLUSIVE CONTROL AND JURISDICTION UPON A WRITTEN REQUEST  
13 APPROVED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
14 MAJORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OR THE MINORITY  
15 LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

# **EXHIBIT D**

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 387 Session of  
2022

---

INTRODUCED BY PITTMAN AND BAKER, NOVEMBER 29, 2022

---

INTRODUCED, NOVEMBER 29, 2022

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the House of Representatives to Exhibit the Articles  
2 of Impeachment.

3 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives has presented to the  
4 Senate an extract from the Journal of the House which reflects  
5 that the House has adopted Articles of Impeachment against  
6 Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of Philadelphia, has  
7 duly appointed managers to conduct and prosecute said  
8 impeachment and has directed the managers to exhibit the  
9 Articles of Impeachment to the Senate; therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate inform the House  
11 of Representatives that the Senate will be ready to receive, at  
12 10:30 a.m., the 30th day of November, 2022, the managers  
13 appointed by the House for the purpose of exhibiting Articles of  
14 Impeachment, agreeably to the notice communicated to the Senate.

# **EXHIBIT E**

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 386 Session of  
2022

---

INTRODUCED BY PITTMAN AND BAKER, NOVEMBER 29, 2022

---

INTRODUCED, NOVEMBER 29, 2022

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing special rules of practice and procedure in the Senate  
2 when sitting on impeachment trials.

3 RESOLVED, That the Senate of Pennsylvania adopt special rules  
4 as follows:

5 Rules of Practice and Procedure  
6 in the Senate When Sitting On  
7 Impeachment Trials

8 Section 1. Reception of managers.

9 (a) Subject to subsection (b), when the Senate receives  
10 notice from the House of Representatives that it has appointed  
11 managers to conduct and prosecute an impeachment against an  
12 individual and has directed the managers to carry articles of  
13 impeachment to the Senate, the Secretary of the Senate shall  
14 immediately inform the House of Representatives that the Senate  
15 is ready to receive the managers for the purpose of exhibiting  
16 such articles of impeachment, agreeably to such notice.

17 (b) If notice under subsection (a) is received when the  
18 Senate has adjourned for at least ten days, the President pro

1 tempore shall immediately appoint a committee under section 10.

2 Section 2. Exhibition of articles of impeachment.

3 (a) When the managers are introduced at the bar of the  
4 Senate and signify that they are ready to exhibit articles of  
5 impeachment against an individual, the presiding officer shall  
6 direct the Sergeant at Arms to make a proclamation.

7 (b) The Sergeant at Arms shall, after making the  
8 proclamation, repeat the following words: "All persons are  
9 commanded to keep silence, on pain of imprisonment, while the  
10 House of Representatives is exhibiting to the Senate of  
11 Pennsylvania articles of impeachment against ."

12 (c) The articles of impeachment shall be exhibited.

13 (d) The presiding officer shall inform the managers that the  
14 Senate will take proper order on the subject of the impeachment  
15 and will give notice to the House of Representatives.

16 Section 3. Consideration.

17 (a) Upon presentation of articles of impeachment to the  
18 Senate, the Senate shall proceed to consider the articles.

19 (b) Consideration shall begin:

20 (1) 1 p.m. on the day following presentation;

21 (2) if presentation is on a Sunday, at 1 p.m. on the  
22 Tuesday following presentation; or

23 (3) the time and day ordered by the Senate.

24 (c) After consideration begins, unless the Senate orders  
25 otherwise, the Senate shall continue in session every day except  
26 Sunday until final judgment is rendered and no further  
27 consideration is needed.

28 (d) Before consideration, the oath or affirmation shall be  
29 administered to the presiding officer and by the presiding  
30 officer to each Senator then present and to other Senators as

1 they shall appear on the floor. A Senator has the duty to take  
2 the oath or make the affirmation. The oath or affirmation must  
3 be in the form set forth in section 25(c).

4 Section 4. Issuance of orders, etc.

5 The presiding officer may issue orders, writs and precepts  
6 authorized by these rules or by the Senate, and may make and  
7 enforce other rules and orders in the Senate Chamber as the  
8 Senate authorizes.

9 Section 5. Enforcement.

10 (a) The Senate has the following powers:

11 (1) To compel the attendance of witnesses.

12 (2) To enforce obedience to its orders, mandates, writs,  
13 precepts and judgments.

14 (3) To preserve order and to punish in a summary way  
15 contempts of, and disobedience to, its authority, orders,  
16 mandates, writs, precepts or judgments.

17 (4) To issue lawful orders and rules which it deems  
18 essential or conducive to the ends of justice.

19 (b) The Sergeant at Arms, under the directions of the  
20 Senate, may employ aid and assistance necessary to execute and  
21 enforce the lawful orders, mandates, writs and precepts of the  
22 Senate.

23 Section 6. Preparation and form of proceedings.

24 (a) The President pro tempore shall direct:

25 (1) necessary preparations in the Senate Chamber; and

26 (2) the form of proceedings.

27 (b) The presiding officer shall rule on all questions of  
28 evidence, including relevance, materiality and redundancy of  
29 evidence and incidental questions. Except as set forth in  
30 subsection (c), a ruling under this subsection shall stand as

1 the judgment of the Senate.

2 (c) On a ruling under subsection (b), a vote may be taken as  
3 follows:

4 (1) A Senator may request a formal vote on the ruling.

5 (2) The presiding officer may submit the ruling for a  
6 vote.

7 (3) Upon request under paragraph (1) or submission under  
8 paragraph (2), the vote shall be taken under the Rules of the  
9 Senate immediately. Debate is not permitted.

10 (4) The result of the vote shall stand as the judgment  
11 of the Senate.

12 Section 7. Writ of summons.

13 (a) Upon presentation of articles of impeachment and the  
14 organization for consideration under these rules, a writ of  
15 summons shall issue to the individual impeached.

16 (b) The writ must contain all of the following:

17 (1) A recitation of the articles.

18 (2) Notice to the individual to:

19 (i) appear, personally or by counsel, before the  
20 Senate at a specified time, on a specified date and at a  
21 specified location;

22 (ii) file an answer to the articles; and

23 (iii) stand to and abide the orders and judgments of  
24 the Senate on the articles.

25 (c) All of the following apply to service of the writ:

26 (1) The officer or individual named in the precept of  
27 the writ shall execute service.

28 (2) Service must be executed within the advance notice  
29 specified in the precept.

30 (3) Service must be executed in one of the following

1 manners:

2 (i) By delivery of an attested copy of the writ to  
3 the individual impeached.

4 (ii) If delivery under subparagraph (i) cannot  
5 conveniently be done, by leaving an attested copy of the  
6 writ in a conspicuous place at the last known place of  
7 residence or the usual place of business of the  
8 individual impeached.

9 (iii) If the Senate determines that compliance with  
10 subparagraphs (i) or (ii) is impracticable, in a manner  
11 the Senate deems just.

12 (d) Upon compliance with subsection (b)(2), the individual  
13 impeached may:

14 (1) Plead guilty. Upon entry of the plea, judgment shall  
15 be rendered.

16 (2) Plead not guilty. Upon entry of the plea, trial  
17 shall commence.

18 (e) Upon noncompliance with subsection (b)(2)(i) or (ii), a  
19 plea of not guilty shall be entered. Upon entry of the plea,  
20 trial shall commence.

21 Section 8. Return of summons.

22 At 12:30 p.m. on the day appointed for the return of the  
23 summons against the individual impeached:

24 (1) The legislative and executive business of the Senate  
25 shall be suspended.

26 (2) The Secretary of the Senate shall administer an oath  
27 or affirmation to the returning officer in the following  
28 form:

29 I, , do solemnly swear or affirm that the  
30 return made by me upon the process issued on the day

1 of , by the Senate of Pennsylvania, against ,  
2 is truly made, and that I have performed such  
3 service as therein described: (So help me God).

4 (3) The oath or affirmation shall be entered on the  
5 record.

6 Section 9. Appearances.

7 The appearance or nonappearance of the individual impeached,  
8 either personally or by counsel shall be recorded on the record.

9 Section 10. Committee.

10 (a) In an impeachment trial, unless otherwise ordered by the  
11 Senate, the President pro tempore may appoint a committee of  
12 Senators, no more than half of whom must be members of the same  
13 political party. The President pro tempore shall be an ex  
14 officio member and may vote in case of a tie on any question  
15 before the committee.

16 (b) The functions of the committee are to receive evidence  
17 and take testimony at times and places determined by the  
18 committee. To discharge these functions, unless otherwise  
19 ordered by the Senate, the committee and its chairperson have  
20 the powers and duties conferred upon the Senate and the  
21 President pro tempore or the President of the Senate,  
22 respectively, under these rules.

23 (c) Upon appointment, the President pro tempore shall be  
24 responsible for setting the first meeting of the committee.  
25 Thereafter, the committee shall meet on such days as the  
26 committee chair may decide until the committee has determined  
27 that all relevant testimony and evidence has been presented.

28 (d) A ruling regarding the admissibility of evidence shall  
29 be made by the committee chair subject to a right of appeal to  
30 the committee. In an appeal, the committee shall vote on the

1 admissibility of the contested evidence.

2 (e) Unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, these rules  
3 shall govern the procedure and practice of the committee so  
4 appointed.

5 (f) The committee shall report to the Senate in writing that  
6 it has completed receiving evidence and taking testimony, and  
7 the committee shall provide a summary of the evidence and  
8 testimony and a certified copy of the transcript of the  
9 proceedings and testimony had and given before such committee.

10 (g) The report under subsection (f) shall be received by the  
11 Senate and the evidence received and the testimony taken shall  
12 be considered, subject to the right of the Senate to determine  
13 competency, relevancy and materiality, as having been received  
14 and taken before the Senate.

15 (h) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Senate from  
16 sending for a witness and hearing the witness's testimony in  
17 open Senate. The Senate may receive additional evidence and  
18 testimony before making its final judgment on the articles of  
19 impeachment.

20 Section 11. Commencement of trial.

21 Unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, at 12:30 p.m. on the  
22 day appointed for the trial of an impeachment:

23 (1) the legislative and executive business of the Senate  
24 shall be suspended; and

25 (2) the Secretary of the Senate shall give notice to the  
26 House of Representatives that the Senate is ready to proceed  
27 upon the impeachment in the Senate Chamber.

28 Section 12. Time of trial.

29 Unless the Senate orders otherwise, trial of an impeachment  
30 shall begin each day at 12 noon. At that time, a proclamation

1 shall be made; and the trial shall proceed. Adjournment of the  
2 trial does not operate as an adjournment of the Senate.

3 Section 13. Record.

4 The Secretary of the Senate shall record the proceedings in  
5 cases of impeachment as in the case of legislative proceedings,  
6 and the proceedings shall be reported in the same manner as the  
7 legislative proceedings of the Senate.

8 Section 14. Counsel.

9 Counsel for the parties shall be admitted to appear and be  
10 heard on impeachment. Counsel must be admitted to practice law  
11 by a court of record of this Commonwealth.

12 Section 15. Presentation of questions, etc.

13 A motion, objection, request or application, whether relating  
14 to the procedure of the Senate or relating immediately to the  
15 trial, including questions with respect to admission of evidence  
16 or other questions arising during the trial, made by the parties  
17 or their counsel shall be addressed to the presiding officer  
18 only. The presiding officer or a Senator may require a written  
19 submission and reading by the Secretary of the Senate.

20 Section 16. Witnesses.

21 Witnesses shall be examined by one individual on behalf of  
22 the party producing them, and then cross-examined by one  
23 individual on the opposing side.

24 Section 17. Senator as witness.

25 If a Senator is called as a witness before the full Senate,  
26 the Senator shall testify at the Senator's desk on the floor of  
27 the Senate.

28 Section 18. Actions by individual Senators.

29 (a) If a Senator wishes a question to be put to a witness,  
30 to a manager or to counsel of the individual impeached, or to

1 offer a motion or order, except a motion to adjourn, it must be  
2 reduced to writing and shall be put by the presiding officer.

3 (b) The parties or their counsel may interpose objections to  
4 a witness answering a question propounded at the request of a  
5 Senator. The merits of the objection may be argued by the  
6 parties or their counsel. Ruling on the objection shall be made  
7 under section 6(b) and (c).

8 (c) It is not in order for a Senator to engage in colloquy  
9 under this section.

10 Section 19. Session to be open.

11 (a) Subject to subsection (b), when the Senate is sitting  
12 upon the trial of an impeachment, the doors of the Senate shall  
13 be kept open.

14 (b) The Senate may direct the doors to be closed while  
15 deliberating upon its decisions. A motion to close the doors may  
16 be acted upon without objection. If an objection is raised to  
17 the motion, the motion shall be voted on without debate by roll  
18 call vote, entered on the record.

19 Section 20. Argument time limits.

20 Unless the Senate otherwise orders, preliminary or  
21 interlocutory questions or a motion, or both, shall be argued  
22 for not exceeding one hour on each side.

23 Section 21. Presentation of case.

24 (a) The case for impeachment shall be opened by a statement  
25 of one manager or counsel for the managers.

26 (b) The case against impeachment shall be opened by a  
27 statement of the individual impeached or one counsel  
28 representing the individual.

29 (c) Unless otherwise ordered by the Senate upon application:

30 (1) The case against impeachment shall be closed by

1 argument on the merits made by no more than two of the  
2 following:

3 (i) The individual impeached.

4 (ii) Counsel for the individual impeached.

5 (2) The case for impeachment shall be closed by argument  
6 on the merits made by no more than two individuals in the  
7 following categories:

8 (i) The managers.

9 (ii) Counsel for the managers.

10 Section 22. Voting on articles of impeachment.

11 (a) An article of impeachment is not divisible for the  
12 purpose of voting on the article during the trial.

13 (b) Once voting has commenced on an article of impeachment,  
14 voting shall be continued until voting has been completed on all  
15 articles of impeachment unless the Senate adjourns for a period  
16 not to exceed one day or adjourns sine die.

17 (c) On the final question whether the impeachment is  
18 sustained, the vote shall be taken on each article of  
19 impeachment separately.

20 (d) If impeachment upon an article is not sustained by the  
21 votes of two-thirds of the Senators present, a judgment of  
22 acquittal on that article shall be entered on the record.

23 (e) If impeachment upon an article is sustained by the votes  
24 of two-thirds of the Senators present, the Senate shall proceed  
25 to the consideration of other matters determined to be  
26 appropriate; and a judgment of conviction on that article shall  
27 be entered on the record. A certified copy of the judgment shall  
28 be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

29 (f) A motion to reconsider the vote by which an article of  
30 impeachment is sustained or not sustained is not in order.

1 (g) To put the question on each article of impeachment:

2 (1) the presiding officer shall state the question; and

3 (2) by roll call vote entered on the record, each

4 Senator shall rise in place and answer guilty or not guilty.

5 Section 23. Votes on orders or decisions.

6 (a) An order or decision may be acted upon without

7 objection.

8 (b) If an objection is raised to an order or decision,

9 subject to subsection (c) and section 6(b) and (c), all of the  
10 following apply:

11 (1) Except as set forth in paragraph (2), the motion or  
12 decision shall be voted on without debate by roll call vote.

13 (2) A motion to adjourn may be decided without a roll  
14 call vote unless a roll call vote is demanded by one-fifth of  
15 the Senators present.

16 (3) The vote shall be entered on the record.

17 (c) When the doors of the Senate are closed for  
18 deliberation, all of the following apply to an objection to an  
19 order or decision:

20 (1) Subject to paragraph (2), all of the following  
21 apply:

22 (i) No Senator may speak more than once on one  
23 question.

24 (ii) No Senator may speak for more than ten minutes  
25 on a question.

26 (iii) No Senator may speak for more than 15 minutes  
27 on the final question. The 15 minutes allowed under this  
28 subparagraph is on the whole deliberation of the final  
29 question, and not on the final question on each  
30 individual article of impeachment.

1 (2) A time period under paragraph (1) may be altered if,  
2 upon motion and without debate, the Senate consents.

3 Section 24. Oath or affirmation of witnesses.

4 (a) A witness must be sworn in the following form:

5 I, , do swear (or affirm, as  
6 the case may be) that the evidence I shall give in the  
7 case now pending between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 and , shall be the truth, the whole truth, and  
9 nothing but the truth: (So help me God).

10 (b) The oath shall be administered by the Secretary of the  
11 Senate or another authorized person.

12 Section 25. Forms.

13 (a) The following is the form of a subpoena to be issued on  
14 the application of a manager or of the individual impeached or  
15 the individual's counsel:

16 To , greeting:  
17 You and each of you are hereby commanded to appear before  
18 the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on  
19 the day of , at the Senate Chamber in the  
20 city of Harrisburg, then and there to testify your  
21 knowledge in the cause which is before the Senate in  
22 which the House of Representatives have impeached.....  
23 Fail not.

24 Witness , and (President or President pro  
25 tempore) of the Senate, at the city of Harrisburg, this  
26 day of , in the year of our Lord .  
27 (President or President pro tempore of the  
28 Senate).

29 (b) The following is the form of direction for the service  
30 of a subpoena under subsection (a):

1 The Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to  
2 , greeting:  
3 You are hereby commanded to serve and return the within  
4 subpoena according to law.  
5 Dated at Harrisburg, this day of , in the year  
6 of our Lord .

7 Secretary of the Senate.

8 (c) The following is the form of oath to be administered to  
9 the Senators and the President of the Senate sitting in the  
10 trial of impeachments:

11 I solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that in  
12 all things appertaining to the trial of the impeachment  
13 of , now pending, I will do impartial justice  
14 according to the Constitution and laws: (So  
15 help me God).

16 (d) The following is the form of summons to be issued and  
17 served upon the person impeached:

18 The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ss:  
19 The Senate of Pennsylvania to , greeting:  
20 Whereas the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth  
21 of Pennsylvania, did, on the day of ,  
22 exhibit to the Senate articles of impeachment against  
23 you, the said , in the words following:

24 (insert articles here)

25 And demand that you, the said , should be put to  
26 answer the accusations as set forth in said articles, and  
27 that such proceedings, examinations, trials, and  
28 judgments might be thereupon had as are agreeable to law  
29 and justice.

30 You, the said , are therefore hereby

1 summoned to be and appear before the Senate of  
2 Pennsylvania, at their Chamber in the city of Harrisburg,  
3 on the day of , at o'clock ,  
4 then and there to answer to the said articles of  
5 impeachment, and then and there to abide by, obey, and  
6 perform such orders, directions and judgments as the  
7 Senate of Pennsylvania shall make in the premises  
8 according to the Constitution and laws of Pennsylvania.  
9 Hereof you are not to fail.

10 Witness , and (President or President pro tempore  
11 of the said Senate), at the city of Harrisburg, this day  
12 of , in the year of our Lord .

13 (President or President pro tempore of the Senate).

14 (e) The following is the form of precept to be indorsed on a  
15 writ of summons under subsection (d):

16 The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ss:  
17 The Senate of Pennsylvania to , greeting:  
18 You are hereby commanded to deliver to and leave  
19 with , if conveniently to be found, or if not,  
20 to leave at his usual place of abode, or at his usual  
21 place of business in some conspicuous place, a true and  
22 attested copy of the within writ of summons, together  
23 with a like copy of this precept; and in whichsoever way  
24 you perform the service, let it be done at least days  
25 before the appearance day mentioned in the said writ of  
26 summons.

27 Fail not, and made return of this writ of summons and  
28 precept, with your proceedings thereon indorsed, on or  
29 before the appearance day mentioned in the said writ of  
30 summons.

1           Witness                           , and (President or President pro  
2           tempore of the Senate), at the city of Harrisburg, this  
3           day of                           , in the year of our Lord                           .

4   (President or President pro tempore of the Senate).

5           (f) Unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, process shall be  
6 served by the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate.

7 Section 26. Other time periods.

8           If the Senate fails to sit for the consideration of articles  
9 of impeachment on the day or hour fixed, the Senate may, by an  
10 order adopted without debate, fix a day and hour for resuming  
11 consideration.

# **EXHIBIT F**

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 388 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY PITTMAN AND BAKER, NOVEMBER 30, 2022

---

INTRODUCED, NOVEMBER 30, 2022

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing a Writ of Impeachment Summons to be issued to the  
2 Honorable Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of  
3 Philadelphia.

4 WHEREAS, On November 30, 2022, the House of Representatives  
5 exhibited Articles of Impeachment against the Honorable Lawrence  
6 Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of Philadelphia, to the  
7 Senate; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That a Writ of Impeachment Summons, including a  
9 copy of the Articles of Impeachment as exhibited to the Senate  
10 on November 30, 2022, be issued immediately from the Senate to  
11 the Honorable Lawrence Samuel Krasner, District Attorney of  
12 Philadelphia; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Writ of Impeachment Summons order and  
14 command Lawrence Samuel Krasner to file one and only one Answer  
15 and any related pleading, personally or by counsel, to the  
16 Articles of Impeachment with Michael C. Gerdes, Interim  
17 Secretary and Parliamentarian of the Senate, by 12 noon on  
18 December 21, 2022, at his office located at 462 Main Capitol  
19 Building, 501 North Third Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

1 17120; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That the Writ of Impeachment Summons order and  
3 command Lawrence Samuel Krasner to be and appear before the  
4 Senate of Pennsylvania, at their Chamber in the city of  
5 Harrisburg, on January 18, 2023, at 11:30 a.m., unless otherwise  
6 directed by the Chair of the Impeachment Committee established  
7 by section 10 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure in the  
8 Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials, if any, to answer to  
9 the said Articles of Impeachment, and then and there to abide  
10 by, obey and perform such other orders, directions and judgments  
11 as the Senate of Pennsylvania or the Impeachment Committee shall  
12 make according to the Constitution, laws of Pennsylvania or  
13 Rules of the Senate; and be it further

14       RESOLVED, That Daniel Billings, Sergeant-at-Arms of the  
15 Senate, be ordered and commanded to deliver and leave with  
16 Lawrence Samuel Krasner, if conveniently to be found, or if not,  
17 to leave at his usual place of abode, or at his usual place of  
18 business in some conspicuous place, a true and attested copy of  
19 the Writ of Impeachment Summons; and be it further

20       RESOLVED, That delivery and service of the Writ of  
21 Impeachment Summons occur and be done by December 7, 2022, if  
22 possible; and be it further

23       RESOLVED, That the Return of Impeachment Summons by Daniel  
24 Billings occur at the beginning of the next actual session day  
25 of the Senate after service and delivery of said Summons; and be  
26 it further

27       RESOLVED, That the Interim Secretary of the Senate notify the  
28 House of Representatives of the filing of any Answer and provide  
29 a copy of the Answer to the House; and be it further

30       RESOLVED, That the Interim Secretary of the Senate provide

1 the Answer to the Presiding Officer of the Senate on the first  
2 day the Senate is in session after the Interim Secretary  
3 receives it and the Presiding Officer cause the Answer to be  
4 printed in the Legislative Journal; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That, if a timely Answer has not been filed, the  
6 Presiding Officer cause a plea of not guilty to be entered; and  
7 be it further

8       RESOLVED, That during proceedings of the Impeachment  
9 Committee, if one is established, the Chairman of the  
10 Impeachment Committee be authorized to waive the requirement,  
11 under section 18(a) of the special Rules of Practice and  
12 Procedure in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials, that  
13 questions by a Senator to a witness, a manager or counsel be  
14 reduced to writing and put by the Presiding Officer; and be it  
15 further

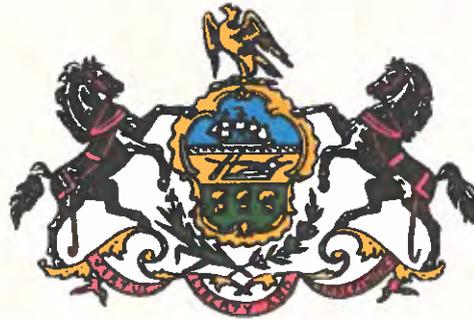
16       RESOLVED, That the Senate or Impeachment Committee be  
17 authorized to provide for the service of any process under  
18 sections 7(c) and 25(b) of the special Rules of Practice and  
19 Procedure in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials in  
20 any manner which the Committee deems appropriate, including the  
21 use of the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms; and be it further

22       RESOLVED, That the Senate or the Impeachment Committee  
23 proceed with consideration of the Articles of Impeachment at  
24 dates and times the Senate or the Impeachment Committee shall  
25 decide; and be it further

26       RESOLVED, That the Interim Secretary of the Senate notify the  
27 House of Representatives and Lawrence Samuel Krasner of this  
28 resolution.

# **EXHIBIT G**

# Senate of Pennsylvania



HARRISBURG, PA

## PRECEPT TO THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ) SS:

The Senate of Pennsylvania  
To Daniel Billings, greeting:

You are hereby commanded to deliver and leave with Mr. Lawrence Samuel Krasner, if conveniently to be found, or if not, to leave at his usual place of abode, or at his usual place of business in some conspicuous place, a true and attested copy of the within Writ of Summons, together with a like copy of this Precept; and in whichsoever way you perform the service, let it be done by Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at the latest, if possible.

Fail not, and make return of this Writ of Summons and Precept, with your proceedings thereon endorsed.

Witness Jacob D. Corman, III, and President Pro Tempore of the said Senate, at the City of Harrisburg, this thirtieth day of November, in the year of our Lord 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jacob D. Corman, III".

JACOB D. CORMAN, III  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

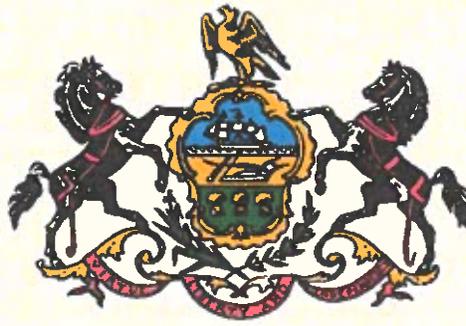


Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Megan L. Martin".

MEGAN L MARTIN  
Secretary of the Senate

# Senate of Pennsylvania



HARRISBURG, PA

## WRIT OF IMPEACHMENT SUMMONS

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ) ss:

The Senate of Pennsylvania  
To Mr. Lawrence Samuel Krasner, greeting:

Whereas, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, did, on the 30th day of November, 2022, exhibit to the Senate Articles of Impeachment against you, the said Lawrence Samuel Krasner, in the words following:

### ARTICLE I:

#### Misbehavior in Office In the Nature of Dereliction of Duty and Refusal to Enforce the Law

Upon assuming office, District Attorney Krasner terminated more than 30 assistant district attorneys (ADA) from employment with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. Many of these terminated assistant district attorneys were senior-level staffers in supervisory roles who possessed significant prosecutorial experience and knowledge of criminal procedure. District Attorney Krasner replaced this vast institutional knowledge in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office with attorneys who lacked any meaningful experience in prosecuting criminal cases, some of whom only recently graduated from law school.

District Attorney Krasner subsequently withdrew the office from membership in the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association (PDAA) because, he asserted, PDAA supported regressive and punitive policies. In withdrawing from PDAA, District Attorney Krasner denied the attorneys in his office the ability to participate in the various professional development and training programs provided by PDAA through its educational institute.

Rather than offering traditional prosecutorial training on such subjects as prosecutorial ethics, human trafficking, witness examination, trial advocacy, trial management and achieving justice for domestic violence and sexual assault victims, District Attorney Krasner offered attorneys seminars, including "A New Vision for Criminal Justice in Philadelphia," "Deportation: The Unforeseen Consequences of Prosecution in our Immigrant Community," and "Philadelphia and Safe Injection: Harm Reduction as Public Policy." The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office eventually returned to more traditional prosecutorial training, however, the office continued to focus on issues that promote District Attorney Krasner's radically progressive philosophies rather than how to effectively prosecute a criminal case.

Upon being elected to office, District Attorney Krasner established a series of office policies with the purported purpose to "end mass incarceration and bring balance back to

sentencing," and later adopted a series of policies related to certain crimes or classes of people. These policies include directives not to charge sex workers or individuals for certain classes of crimes such as prostitution or possession of marijuana and marijuana-related drug paraphernalia.

These new policies identified a series of offenses for which the gradation may be reduced with the purpose of "reduc[ing] pre-trial incarceration rates as no bail is required and the shorter time required for hearings expedites Municipal Court and Common Pleas dockets," and requiring disposition of retail theft cases unless the value of the item stolen exceeds \$500 or where the defendant has an extensive history of theft convictions.

District Attorney Krasner instituted policies to make plea offers below the bottom end of the mitigated range under the Sentencing Guidelines from the Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission and seek greater use of house arrest, probation and alternative sentencing when the sentencing guidelines indicate a range of incarceration of less than 24 months.

In February 2018, District Attorney Krasner established a policy that his office "will ordinarily no longer ask for cash bail for...misdemeanors and felonies" listed in the policy, because "[T]he cash bail system is rife with injustice and exacerbates socio-economic and racial inequalities, disproportionately penalizing the poor and people of color."

In November 2018, District Attorney Krasner adopted a policy in which a criminal defendant's immigration status should be considered in the plea-bargaining process, effectively providing that if an immigration consequence is detected pre-trial or with respect to a sentencing recommendation, counsel will advise if an offer can be made to avoid the consequence.

Other policies that District Attorney Krasner directed were as follows:

(1) Assistant district attorneys may not proceed in cases against defendants driving under the influence of cannabis when the defendants' blood "contains inactive metabolite (11-Nor-9-Carboxy-Delta-9-THC) or 4 or fewer ng/mls of psycho-active THC" and that "if the defense presents evidence that calls impairment into question, an ADA may consider dropping the charges against the defendant."

(2) The District Attorney's Office "will only oppose motions for redactions or expungements in limited circumstances" and sets forth various scenarios in which the office will agree to, seek or not oppose the expungement of a defendant's criminal history.

(3) The District Attorney's Office directed plea offers and sentencing recommendations:

(i) for felonies, "aimed at an office-wide average period of total supervision among cases of around 18 months or less of total supervision, with a ceiling of 3 years of total supervision or less on each case";

(ii) for misdemeanors, aimed at an office-wide average of "6 months or less of total supervision, with a ceiling of 1 year";

(iii) for all matters, for "concurrent sentences"; and

(iv) for cases involving incarceration, "for a period of parole that is no longer than the period of incarceration."

Nearly all of District Attorney Krasner's policies "create a presumption" for ADAs to follow and require approval from District Attorney Krasner himself or a first assistant district attorney for deviations from the policies.

District Attorney Krasner, in an April 2021 report published by the District Attorney's Office (DAO) titled "Ending Mass Supervision: Evaluating Reforms," wrote in his opening letter: "I am proud of the work this office has done to make Philadelphians, particularly Philadelphians of Color, freer from unnecessary government intrusion, while keeping our communities safe." In reality, the policies and practices of the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office instituted under the direction of District Attorney Krasner have led to catastrophic consequences for the people of the City of Philadelphia.

According to the City Controller, spikes in gun violence and homicides have dramatically impacted historically disadvantaged neighborhoods, and those neighborhoods are "primarily low-income with predominately black or African American residents." The Philadelphia Police Department (PPD) reports that the number of homicide victims has increased every year since 2016, more than doubling from 2016 to 2021, with a year-over-year increase of 40% between 2019 and 2020. As of October 16, 2022, there have already been 430 homicides in the City of Philadelphia in 2022. As of October 17, 2022, reported trends gathered from the PPD's "incident" data, which tracks the reporting of all crimes in addition to homicides, shows a 12% increase in all reported offenses, a 6% increase in violent offenses and a 21% increase in property offenses.

While incidents of violent crime are increasing, prosecution of crime by the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office has decreased during this same period. In 2016, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office reported that only 30% of "all offenses" resulted in a dismissal or withdrawal, but that number spiked to 50% in 2019, 54% in 2020, 67% in 2021 and 65% to date in 2022.

A similar trend is evident when filtering the data for violent crimes, where, in 2016, the withdrawal and dismissed violent crime cases accounted for 48% of all violent crime case outcomes, but that percentage increased to 60% in 2019, to 68% in 2020, to 70% in 2021 and to 66% in 2022 to date. Data from the Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission relating to violations of the Uniform Firearms Act (VUFA) evidences a similar jarring trend. The Sentencing Commission reports that guilty dispositions in the City of Philadelphia declined from 88% in 2015 to 66% in 2020, compared to a decline from 84% to 72% in counties of the second class, with the driver of the decrease being nolle pros dispositions. As compared to the Statewide data and other county classes, in the City of Philadelphia the percent of guilty verdicts has decreased significantly, while the percent of nolle prossed cases has increased.

Studies by the Delaware Valley Intelligence Center (DVIC) attempted to provide "an explanation for the increase in homicides and shootings in an effort to begin a conversation to address the challenge at a strategic level," and, significantly, the report notes:

"The rate of prosecution dismissal and withdrawal has been increase [sic] substantially since 2015 under DA [Seth] Williams, and has continued to increase after DA Krasner took office. Furthermore, a closer examination of these dropped cases indicates that more cases are dismissed/withdrawn at the preliminary hearing state [sic] under DA Krasner than the actual trial state []. This implies that, even when criminals are caught with a gun, they are swiftly finding out they may not receive as significant a consequence as they had historically. Notably, the likelihood of being arrested is low to begin with. This means that, criminals know that their likelihood of getting caught with a gun is slim and, even if they get caught, they feel that they can leave without severe (or any) consequences."

The DVIC conducted a "cursory examination" of dismissed/withdrawn cases in 2018/2019 and "found 6 offenders whose cases were dismissed (VUFA former convict charge) and got later involved in shootings...2 of these shootings were fatal and 4 out of these 6 offenders were gang members."

The DVIC studied the prosecution declination for narcotics, retail theft and prostitution arrests from 2016 to 2018, and concluded in its key findings that the percentage of all declinations, not just narcotics, prostitution and retail theft, increased "especially in 2018" to

more than 7%, when it had been just 2% or less between 2007 and 2015.

In September 2020, the Philadelphia City Council authorized the Committee on Public Safety and the Special Committee on Gun Violence Prevention to study gun violence in the city. This study involved a collaboration between the Controller's Office, Defender Association, Department of Public Health, District Attorney's Office, First Judicial District, Managing Director's Office, Pennsylvania Attorney General and PPD. The published results, called the "100 Shooting Review Committee Report," discusses trends and general findings regarding shootings in the City of Philadelphia. The published results showed the following:

(1) The clearance rate (*i.e.*, when an arrest was made or a suspect that could not be arrested was identified) for fatal shootings in 2020 was 37% and the rate for nonfatal shootings was 18%.

(2) There has been a "marked increase" in the number of people arrested for illegal gun possession without the accusation of an additional offense, including a doubling in arrests for illegal possession of a firearm without a license since 2018.

(3) The initial and final bail amounts set by courts in illegal possession of firearms cases declined between 2015 and 2019 and increased in 2020 and 2021.

(4) Conviction rates in shooting cases declined between 2016 and 2020 from 96% to 80% in fatal shootings and from 69% to 64% in nonfatal shootings.

(5) There is a long-term trend of a reduction in conviction rates for illegal gun possession cases, dropping from 65% in 2015 to 45% in 2020.

In August 2022, the Philadelphia Police Commissioner indicated that her department is short-staffed by approximately 20%, or 1,300 officers, due to low morale, politics, increased scrutiny and "uniquely stringent hiring requirements" during a nationwide shortage.

Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw stated, "The truth is the homicides are not happening in a vacuum - there are those who are determined to attack and kill their victims. While we are making constant adjustments to mitigate this sickening reality, our officers, simply put, just can't keep up by being everywhere at all times." While the PPD may arrest a suspect for the commission of a crime, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office is one of the few district attorney's offices in this Commonwealth that reserves unto itself the authority to charge a person for a criminal act.

In October 2022, following yet another act of violence against police in the City of Philadelphia, Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw issued the following statement:

"We are tired of arresting the same suspects over and over again, only to see them right back out on the street to continue and sometimes escalate their criminal ways. We are tired of having to send our officers into harm's way to serve warrants on suspects who have no business being on the street in the first place.

No - not everyone needs to be in jail. But when we repeatedly see the extensive criminal histories of those we arrest for violent crime, the question needs to be asked as to why they were yet again back on the street and terrorizing our communities.

I am beyond disgusted by this violence. Our entire department is sickened by what is happening to the people that live, work, and visit our city. Residents are tired of it. Business owners are tired of it. Our children are tired of it. We are long past 'enough is enough'."

Acts of violence, and particularly violent crimes committed with firearms, have exacted a heavy toll on victims and their families, with countless lives unnecessarily lost or irretrievably broken, due to the increase of violent crime in the City of Philadelphia. The foregoing acts

constitute "misbehavior in office" by District Attorney Krasner in that such acts have substantially contributed to the increase in crime in the City of Philadelphia, undermined confidence in the criminal justice system, and betrayed the trust of the citizens of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth.

WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under this Commonwealth.

## ARTICLE II:

### Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Obstruction of House Select Committee Investigation

House Resolution 216 of 2022 established the House Select Committee to Restore Law and Order pursuant to Rule 51 of the General Operating Rules of the House. The select committee is authorized and empowered "to investigate, review and make finding and recommendations concerning rising rates of crime, law enforcement and the enforcement of crime victim rights," in the City of Philadelphia.

House Resolution 216 further charges the select committee to make findings and recommendations, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Determinations regarding the performance of public officials empowered to enforce the law in the City of Philadelphia, including the district attorney, and recommendations for removal from office or other appropriate discipline, including impeachment.

(2) Legislation or other legislative action relating to policing, prosecution, sentencing and any other aspect of law enforcement.

(3) Legislation or other legislative action relating to ensuring the protection, enforcement and delivery of appropriate services and compensation to crime victims.

(4) Legislation or other legislative action relating to ensuring the appropriate expenditure of public funds intended for the purpose of law enforcement, prosecutions or to benefit crime victims.

(5) Other legislative action as the select committee finds necessary to ensure appropriate enforcement of law and order in the City of Philadelphia.

In pursuit of these obligations, the resolution empowers the select committee chair to, among other things, "send for individuals and papers and subpoena witnesses, documents, including electronically stored information, and any other materials under the hand and seal of the chair." The chair issued subpoenas to a number of Philadelphia municipal offices, including the Controller, the Mayor, the Police Department, the Sheriff's Office, the Treasurer and the District Attorney's Office. The subpoenas sought nonprivileged records necessary to fulfill the select committee's obligations to the House of Representatives pursuant to House Resolution 216.

While other municipal offices worked cooperatively with the select committee to respond to the subpoenas issued to them, District Attorney Krasner and his office chose instead to obstruct the select committee's work at every turn. District Attorney Krasner and his office asserted that the select committee was illegitimate and that its subpoenas served "no valid legislative purpose, violating the separation of powers, invading legal privileges, and seeking to deny the constitutional rights of Philadelphia's citizens, especially their democratic right to vote and choose their local leaders."

**District Attorney Krasner asserted various claims that held no basis in fact or law, including the following:**

**(1) District Attorneys are not subject to impeachment.**

**(2) Impeaching the District Attorney violates the constitutional rights of the people who voted for him.**

**(3) The District Attorney committed no wrong, and therefore was not required to comply with the committee chair's subpoena.**

**(4) Impeachment of a public official requires a conviction for a criminal act; and**

**District Attorney Krasner and his office refused to search for or produce any documents in response to the subpoena. Despite multiple attempts by counsel to the select committee chair to bring District Attorney Krasner and his office into compliance with the subpoenas, explaining on multiple occasions that the select committee was seeking nonprivileged records and, as it related to any record for which the District Attorney believed were privileged, the District Attorney should follow common practice in responding to a subpoena by providing a privilege log to identify those records for which the District Attorney asserts a privilege.**

**On September 12, 2022, after multiple exchanges between counsel and a Request to Show Cause why the District Attorney should not be held in contempt by the House, the select committee issued an interim report pursuant to Rule 51 of the General Operating Rules of the House of Representatives, notifying the House of District Attorney Krasner's refusal to comply with the subpoena and recommending that the House consider contempt proceedings.**

**The House of Representatives adopted House Resolution 227 on September 13, 2022, resolving that the House hold District Attorney Krasner in contempt. House Resolution 227 was adopted by a bipartisan vote of 162 to 38.**

**District Attorney Krasner filed an action in Commonwealth Court on September 2, 2022, in which he raised the same arguments that fail to have any meaningful basis in law or fact. District Attorney Krasner and his office have since feigned partial compliance with the subpoena, providing several public-facing records obtained without the need to engage in any legitimate effort to search for the records.**

**The select committee chair invited District Attorney Krasner to testify before the select committee in executive session on October 21, 2022. District Attorney Krasner refused to testify in executive session, demanding a public hearing instead. District Attorney Krasner then published a press release which was misleading at best, mischaracterizing the invitation to District Attorney Krasner to testify in yet another moment of grandstanding.**

**Given the District Attorney's rejection of the invitation to testify in executive session, the select committee was compelled to cancel the hearing.**

**District Attorney Krasner has, at every turn, obstructed the efforts of the House Select Committee on Restoring Law and Order. He has consistently raised specious claims without a good faith basis in law or fact. Even after the House of Representatives resolved to hold him in contempt, District Attorney Krasner's efforts to comply with subpoenas issued by the select committee chair fall far short of what can be considered a reasonable good faith effort.**

**WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under this Commonwealth.**

**Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Code of Judicial Conduct; specifically Rule 3.3 Candor Toward the Tribunal, Rule 8.4 Professional Misconduct, and Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct Impropriety and Appearance of Impropriety in the Matter of Robert Wharton v. Donald T. Vaughn**

In the Federal habeas corpus proceeding in *Robert Wharton v. Donald T. Vaughn*, Federal District Court Judge Goldberg issued a memorandum order admonishing and sanctioning the District Attorney's Office. Robert Wharton was convicted of murdering the parents of survivor Lisa Hart-Newman, who was seven months old at the time and was left to freeze to death with her deceased parents by Mr. Wharton.

After his conviction, Wharton pursued a death penalty habeas petition in the Federal district court. The District Attorney's Office under prior administrations had opposed this petition.

In 2019, District Attorney Krasner's administration filed a "Notice of Concession of Penalty Phase Relief," stating that it would not seek a new death sentence, and, based on that sentencing relief, the litigation and appeals could end. The concession noted only that the decision to concede was made "[f]ollowing review of this case by the Capital Case Review Committee of the Philadelphia [District Attorney's Office], communication with the victims' family, and notice to [Wharton's] counsel."

Judge Goldberg undertook an independent analysis of the merits of the claim and invited the Pennsylvania Office Attorney General (OAG) to file an amicus brief in the case. In its amicus, the OAG submitted additional facts that the District Attorney's Office had not disclosed, including evidence of prison misconducts, attempted escapes and Department of Corrections concerns regarding "assaultiveness" and "escape" by Mr. Wharton.

The OAG concluded that "given the facts of this investigation and aggravating sentencing factors present in this case, Wharton could not establish a reasonable probability that the outcome of his penalty phase death sentence would have been different if the jury had heard evidence of his alleged 'positive' prison adjustment."

The OAG further determined that members of the family, including victim Ms. Hart-Newman, were not contacted and that they opposed the concession by the District Attorney's Office.

After an evidentiary hearing, Judge Goldberg held as follows:

(1) The District Attorney's Office failed to advise the court of significant anti-mitigation evidence, including that Mr. Wharton had made an escape attempt at a court appearance.

(2) Two of the office's supervisors violated Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b)(3) "based upon that Office's representations to this Court that lacked evidentiary support and were not in any way formed after 'an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances.'"

(3) Representations of communication with the victims' family were "misleading," "false," and "yet another representation to the Court made after an inquiry that was not reasonable under the circumstances."

(4) The Law Division Supervisor, Assistant Supervisor and District Attorney's Office violated Rule 11(b)(1), and concluding that the violation was "sufficiently 'egregious' and

'exceptional' under the circumstances to warrant sanctions."

Judge Goldberg imposed nonmonetary sanctions on the District Attorney's Office, requiring that separate written apologies be sent to the victim, Lisa Hart-Newman, and the victim's family members. Given the testimony of the two Law Division supervisors that District Attorney Krasner approved and implemented internal procedures that created the need for this sanction, and that the District Attorney had the sole, ultimate authority to direct that the misleading Notice of Concession be filed, therefore "the apologies shall come from the District Attorney, Lawrence Krasner, personally."

District Attorney Krasner has the sole authority to approve court filings on behalf of Philadelphia District Attorneys office. While in office, District Attorney Krasner directed, approved and or permitted the filing of a "Notice of Concession" and presentation of other pleadings and statements in Federal court which contained materially false and or misleading affirmative statements and purposeful omissions of fact in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 3.3 (Candor Toward the Tribunal) and Rule 8.4 (Professional Misconduct), and Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 2 (Impropriety and or Appearance of Impropriety).

WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under this Commonwealth.

#### Article IV:

Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct; specifically Rule 3.3 Candor Toward the Tribunal, Rule 8.4 Professional Misconduct, and Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct Impropriety and Appearance of Impropriety in the matter of *Commonwealth vs. Pownall*

In his special concurrence in *Commonwealth v. Pownall*, Supreme Court Justice Dougherty highlighted what he feared to be an effort by the District Attorney's Office to deprive certain defendants of a fair and speedy trial. Following the June 2017 incident in which former Philadelphia police officer Ryan Pownall shot and killed David Jones, the District Attorney's Office submitted the matter to an investigative grand jury. The investigating grand jury issued a presentment recommending that Pownall be charged with criminal homicide, possession of an instrument of crime and recklessly endangering another person; and

During trial, the prosecutor filed a motion in limine to preclude the standard peace officer justification defense instruction, based on the assertion that the instruction, which largely tracked language of statute, violated Fourth Amendment prohibition against unreasonable search and seizure. The motion was denied and the prosecution appealed to the Superior Court, which quashed the appeal as unauthorized. The Supreme Court granted the prosecutor's request for allowance of appeal.

The Supreme Court ultimately denied the appeal, but the special concurrence filed by Justice Dougherty illuminated startling behavior by the District Attorney's Office. Justice Dougherty held that the District Attorney's Office's actions during grand jury process "implicate[s] a potential abuse" and stated that "the presentment in this case is perhaps best characterized as a 'foul blow.'" He referred to the grand jury presentment, authored by the District Attorney's Office, as a "gratuitous narrative."

Justice Dougherty also recognized that any abuse of the grand jury could have been remedied by "Statutory safeguards embedded in the process," such as a preliminary hearing. He went on to say, "What is troubling is the DAO's effort to ensure that would not occur,"

*i.e.*, their filing of a motion to bypass the preliminary hearing.

Justice Dougherty found it "inexplicable" that, in presenting a bypass motion to the Court of Common Pleas, the District Attorney's Office failed to highlight the Investigating Grand Jury Act section 4551(e), which directs that a defendant "shall" be entitled to a preliminary hearing. He emphasized that the District Attorney's Office "appear[ed] to have known [about that requirement] at the time it filed its motion."

As it related to the prosecutor's motion in limine and interlocutory appeal, Justice Dougherty observed that the District Attorney's Office's motion "presented only half the relevant picture." He went on to say that "this type of advocacy would be worrisome coming from any litigant," but coming from a prosecutor, "is even more concerning, particularly in light of the motion's timing...." He cited directly to Pennsylvania Rule of Professional Conduct 3.3 regarding candor to the tribunal.

Further referencing ethical concerns, Justice Dougherty found that the timing of the motion in limine, "[w]hen combined with the other tactics highlighted throughout this concurrence," could lead to the conclusion that the decision to take "an unauthorized interlocutory appeal was intended to deprive [Mr. Pownall] of a fair and speedy trial." Justice Dougherty went on to say:

Now, for the first time before this Court, the DAO finally admits its true intent in all this was simply to use Pownall's case as a vehicle to force judicial determination on 'whether Section 508(a)(1) is facially unconstitutional.' DAO's Reply Brief at 1; see *id.* at 6 (asserting Section 508's applicability to [Pownall] is not the subject of this appeal"). What's more, despite having assured the trial court it was not trying 'to bar [Pownall] from a defense[.]' N.T. 11/25/2019 at 8, the DAO now boldly asserts it would be appropriate for this Court to rewrite the law and retroactively apply it to Pownall's case because he supposedly 'had fair notice of his inability to rely on this unconstitutional defense[.]' DAO's Brief at 10.

Justice Dougherty concluded, "Little that has happened in this case up to this point reflects procedural justice. On the contrary, the DAO's prosecution of Pownall appears to be "driven by a win-at-all-cost office culture" that treats police officers differently than other criminal defendants. DAO CONVICTION INTEGRITY UNIT REPORT, OVERTURNING CONVICTIONS - AND AN ERA 2 (June 15, 2021) available at [tinyurl.com/CIU-report](http://tinyurl.com/CIU-report) (last visited July 19, 2022). This is the antithesis of what the law expects of a prosecutor."

On remand, Common Pleas Court Judge McDermott said that there were "so many things wrong" with the District Attorney's Office's instructions to the investigating grand jury that it warranted dismissing all charges against Mr. Pownall. After hearing testimony from the assistant district attorneys who handled the grand jury and preparation of the presentment, Judge McDermott concluded that the District Attorney's Office failed to provide the legal instructions to the grand jurors on the definitions for homicide and information regarding the use-of-force defense.

In her October 17, 2022, Statement of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, Judge McDermott stated, "The Commonwealth made an intentional, deliberate choice not to inform the grand jurors about the justification defense under Section 508. While [the ADA] was aware of Section 508 and its applicability to the Defendant's case at the time of the Grand Jury proceedings, she decided not to advise the Grand Jury about Section 508 after consulting with other, more senior Assistant District Attorneys."

As it related to Pownall's right to a preliminary hearing, Judge McDermott wrote:

In its Motion to bypass the preliminary hearing, the Commonwealth demonstrated a lack of candor to the Court by misstating the law and providing Judge Coleman with incorrect case law.

\* \* \*

The Commonwealth was also disingenuous with the Court when it asserted that it had good cause to bypass the preliminary hearing under Pa.R.Crim.P. 565(a) because of the complexity of the case, the large number of witnesses the Commonwealth would have to call, the expense, and the delay caused by a preliminary hearing. As a preliminary hearing was not held in this case, the Defendant's due process rights were violated and the Defendant suffered prejudice.

Judge McDermott told the District Attorney's Office that if defense counsel had made the decisions that the District Attorney's Office made, she would "declare them incompetent." The District Attorney's Office's own expert report from Gregory A. Warren, Ed.D., of American Law Enforcement Training and Consulting concluded that, given all the facts presented to him, Officer Pownall's "use of deadly force in this case was justified." This expert report was withheld from Pownall by the District Attorney's Office.

District Attorney Krasner has the sole authority to approve court filings on behalf of Philadelphia District Attorneys office. While in office District Attorney Krasner directed, approved and or permitted the filing of motions, presentations of other pleadings and statements to the Grand Jury and the Court which intentionally omitted, concealed and or withheld material facts and legal authority relevant to the judicial proceedings in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 3.3 (Candor Toward the Tribunal), Rule 8.4 (Professional Misconduct) and Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 2 (Impropriety and or Appearance of Impropriety).

WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under this Commonwealth.

#### Article V:

Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Code of Judicial Conduct; specifically Rule 3.3 Candor to Tribunal, Rule 8.4 Professional Misconduct, and Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct Impropriety and Appearance of Impropriety in the matter In re: Conflicts of Interest of Philadelphia District Attorneys Office

During sworn testimony, District Attorney Krasner withheld material facts from the Supreme Court when he testified under oath before the Supreme Court's Special Master. The Special Master was appointed by the Supreme Court pursuant to its Kings Bench jurisdiction to investigate whether District Attorney Krasner had a conflict of interest favoring the defendant and appellant, Mumia Abu-Jamal, who had been convicted of first-degree murder of Officer Daniel Faulkner. District Attorney Krasner testified that he "never represented any advocacy organization for Mumia Abu-Jamal."

While affirmatively stating he never represented an "organization" which advocated for Mumia Abu-Jamal, District Attorney Krasner omitted the fact that he had, in fact, represented at least one pro-Mumia activist who was arrested for seeking to intimidate the judge deciding Abu-Jamal's Post Conviction Relief Act ("PCRA") Petition. That activist, who at the time was the "Director" of the "Youth Action Coalition," was arrested along-side local leaders of The International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal, all of whom were protesting outside the home of Abu-Jamal's PCRA judge in an effort to illegally influence the very proceedings at issue in Mumia Abu-Jamal's nunc pro tunc appeal.

District Attorney Krasner represented this "Director," and potentially other pro-Mumia activists, against charges for violating a criminal statute that prohibits protesting outside the homes of judicial officers to influence the outcome of cases pending before the judicial officers. Yet, in testifying that he "never represented any advocacy organization for Mumia Abu-Jamal," District Attorney Krasner omitted these material facts, providing a partial and misleading disclosure regarding his connection to the effort to exonerate and free Mumia Abu-Jamal. District Attorney Krasner's misleading disclosure was directly relevant to the subject matter under investigation by the Supreme Court in that he was concealing material facts concerning his conflicts of interest in the Mumia Abu-Jamal matter, an issue at the very heart of the Supreme Court's review of the King's Bench Petition filed by the widow of Officer Faulkner. District Attorney Krasner therefore violated Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 3.3 (Candor Toward the Tribunal), Rule 8.4 (Professional Misconduct) and Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 2 (Impropriety and or Appearance of Impropriety).

WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under this Commonwealth.

#### Article VI:

##### Misbehavior in Office in Nature of Violation of Victims Rights

Federal and State law provides for certain rights for victims related to the prosecution and sentencing of the defendants who victimized them or their family members (18 U.S.C. § 3771 (b)(2)(A) and section 201 of the act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), known as the Crime Victims Act). Chief among the rights provided to victims is the right to be kept informed at all stages of the prosecution through clear, respectful and honest communication and to be consulted with regard to sentencing. District Attorney Krasner repeatedly violated, and allowed Assistant District Attorneys under his supervision to violate, the Federal and state victims' rights acts on multiple occasions by specifically failing to timely contact victims, deliberately misleading victims and or disregarding victim input and treating victims with contempt and disrespect.

WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under this Commonwealth.

#### Article VII:

##### Misbehavior In Office In the Nature of Violation of the Constitution of Pennsylvania By Usurpation of the Legislative Function

Pursuant to Article II of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, the legislative power is vested in the General Assembly. District Attorney Krasner as an elected executive in the City of Philadelphia has no authority to create, repeal or amend any state law. Despite this clear separation of powers, District Attorney Krasner has contravened the authority of the legislature by refusing to prosecute specifically prohibited conduct under state law. Rather than exercising his inherent discretionary powers to review and determine charges on a case-by-case basis, District Attorney Krasner, in his capacity as the Commonwealth's Attorney in the City of Philadelphia, unilaterally determined, directed and ensured that certain crimes would no longer be prosecuted and were therefore *de facto* legal.

These crimes include prostitution, theft and drug-related offenses, among others. In particular, the *de facto* legalization of prostitution by District Attorney Krasner has had a devastating impact on women who are victims of sex trafficking and the communities where they are trafficked. Refusing to prosecute retail theft of property with less than a value of

\$500, District Attorney Krasner has created an atmosphere of lawlessness in Philadelphia, with the direct effect of causing businesses to curtail activity or cease doing business altogether in Philadelphia. District Attorney Krasner's refusal to prosecute those caught driving under the influence of marijuana, aside from contributing to the lawlessness in the city, has created dangerous situations for the health, safety and welfare of the people in Philadelphia. District Attorney Krasner *de facto* legalizing such acts that the General Assembly has determined to be illegal is a clear usurpation of legislative powers in violation of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, and thus constitutes misbehavior in office.

WHEREFORE, District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner is guilty of an impeachable offense warranting removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under this Commonwealth.

The House of Representatives hereby reserves to itself the right and ability to exhibit at any time after adoption of this resolution further or more detailed Articles of Impeachment against District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner, to reply to any answers that District Attorney Lawrence Samuel Krasner may make to any Articles of Impeachment which are exhibited and to offer proof at trial in the Senate in support of each and every Article of Impeachment which shall be exhibited by them.

And demand that you, the said Lawrence Samuel Krasner, should be put to answer the accusations as set forth in said articles, and that such proceedings, examinations, trials, and judgments might be thereupon had as are agreeable to law and justice.

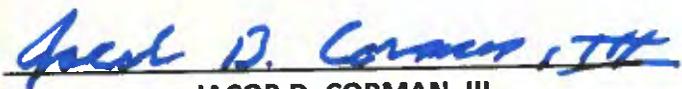
Therefore, the Senate of Pennsylvania directs that you, the said Lawrence Samuel Krasner, be ordered and commanded to file one and only one written Answer and any related Pleading, if any, personally or by counsel, to said Articles of Impeachment, with Michael C. Gerdes, Interim Secretary and Parliamentarian of the Senate on or before 12:00 o'clock Noon the twenty-first (21<sup>st</sup>) day of December, 2022, at his office located at 462 Main Capitol Building, 501 North Third Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

You, the said Lawrence Samuel Krasner, are therefore further hereby summoned to be and appear before the Senate of Pennsylvania, at their Chamber in the city of Harrisburg, on the eighteenth (18<sup>th</sup>) day of January, 2023, at 11:30 o'clock a.m., unless otherwise directed by the Chair of the Impeachment Committee established by Section 10 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure in the Senate When Sitting On Impeachment Trials, if any, to answer to the said articles of impeachment, and then and there to abide by, obey and perform such other orders, directions and judgments as the Senate of Pennsylvania or the Impeachment Committee shall make according to the Constitution, laws of Pennsylvania or Rules of the Senate.

Hereof you are not to fail.

Witness Jacob D. Corman, III, and President Pro Tempore of the said Senate, at the City of Harrisburg, this thirtieth day of November, in the year of our Lord 2022.





JACOB D. CORMAN, III  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

Attest:

  
MEGAN L MARTIN  
Secretary of the Senate