



National District Attorneys Association
Staff Contact: Frank Russo
703-519-1655 or frusso@ndaajustice.org
www.ndaa.org

March 24th, 2021

The Honorable Elissa Soltkin
Committee on Homeland Security
H2-176 Ford House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable August Pfluger
Committee on Homeland Security
H2-176 Ford House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Chairwoman Slotkin & Ranking Member Pfluger,

I am reaching out on behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the country. With more than 5,000 members nationwide, NDAA is recognized as the leading source of national expertise on the prosecution function and is a valuable resource for the media, academia, government, and community leaders. Today, I write in anticipation and support of your hearing on the *State and Local Responses to Domestic Terrorism*.

As the nation continues to confront the challenges of homegrown terrorism, state and local prosecutors continue to work with our Federal partners to hold bad actors accountable. In light of these recent tragedies, NDAA and its members have focused our efforts on improving training and resources to prepare the field to proactively root out domestic terrorism in our communities and combat the spread of misinformation. Congress can assist prosecutors and our law enforcement partners in this effort by dedicating funding and resources to strengthening technical assistance and training as we fight to end the spread of domestic terrorism.

Often, State and local incidents that involve domestic terrorism are complex and involve multiple agencies responding to the scene. Additionally, states largely lack specific domestic terrorism statutes and must look to other criminal laws where elements are present in order to seek justice for victims. Given the complex nature of these investigations and subsequent prosecutions, additional resources are needed for state and local prosecutors to provide training and technical assistance on how to handle these cases when they occur, develop threat assessment models for their jurisdictions and collaborate with federal partners to hold perpetrators accountable.

Based on these challenges, NDAA is encouraged to hear that Congress is considering addressing the issue of domestic terrorism through Federal legislation. Our members agree that now is the time to act in response to this growing threat to our homeland and call on the Committee to ensure any such proposal includes training, technical assistance, and increased resources to assist crime intelligence units. These units play a vital role in identifying threats at the State and local level and assisting collaboration between Federal, State, local, and tribal partners to counteract potential threats to communities. We are confident that directing additional resources and funding to combat domestic terrorism will strengthen relationships between Federal law enforcement and their State and local partners as we work together to stamp out the domestic terror threat to our country.

We thank you for your tireless efforts to address this ongoing issue and look forward to working alongside you and your staff to combat the danger posed by domestic terrorism.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy G. Parr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Nancy G. Parr
NDAA President