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August 9, 2023

Ron DeSantis, Governor
Office of Governor Ron DeSantis
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Governor DeSantis,

This morning you announced the suspension of the State Attorney of the Ninth District, Monique Worrell. The second suspension of an elected State Attorney, in just days over a 12-month span, is an extraordinary measure. And while I will, along with several of our Senate colleagues, refrain from speaking publicly about the merits or substance of any suspension order, as we may be asked to sit in judgment of your executive suspension(s), I would ask that you make the public aware of whoever else may be facing suspension.

If your position is that a series, pattern or culture of conduct within an office, presumably developing over several months, years or terms, while tasked with the administration of our state's criminal justice system, rises to a level of negligence so severe that suspension is warranted, it naturally follows that the public (and the hundreds of public servants working within these offices) has the right to know two critical things, specifically:

- 1) What other State Attorney(s) is facing suspension?
- 2) As there are vastly different data across crime subcategories, what is the metric used to determine which conduct or negligence (on a percentage basis, perhaps) rises to a level requiring suspension?

As Senators, we have a vested interest in all actions occurring in this great State, including those directed by the Executive branch. I anticipate and appreciate your prompt response to this letter and the questions posed.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lauren Book in cursive.

Senate Minority Leader