



PHOENIX LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION

Representing Phoenix Police Officers Since 1975

February 23, 2024

The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Sinema,

The Phoenix Law Enforcement Association is a proud member of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) and the more than 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers NAPO represents across the United States. Locally, we represent approximately 2200 Phoenix Police Officers and Detectives. I am writing to echo NAPO's serious concerns with the nomination of Adeel A. Mangi to be a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Mr. Mangi, while no doubt a recognized lawyer, has never been a judge at any level – he has not even presided over a parking ticket case – and now is nominated to the bench one step removed from the Supreme Court. While we appreciate that some view his nomination as “historic,” a person with no relevant experience should not be given a judgeship at the second highest level of our judicial system due to uniqueness unrelated to legal ability.

Further, and more importantly, his work as a Board Member of the Alliance of Families for Justice should be disqualifying. The Alliance was founded by Kathy Boudin, convicted for her role in the 1981 Brink's robbery by the Weather Underground that left two police officers executed in cold blood. The Alliance has advocated and continues to advocate for the release of at least six other cop-killers - Sundiata Acoli, Mumia Abu Jamal, Mutulu Shakur, Russell Maroon Shoatz, Jamil Al Amin, Kamau Sadiki – referring to them all as “elder freedom fighters.”

The fact that the Alliance of Families for Justice, of which Mr. Mangi is an Advisory Board member, raises these cop-killers as leaders to follow and is calling for their release is an affront to the men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting our communities as law enforcement officers. It is profoundly tone-deaf to the cries for justice from citizens of all walks of life, suffering from mayhem and violence in our streets.



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Above all, it is an insult to the victims of their heinous crimes and similar crimes against law enforcement: the family and friends of officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

It is one thing to stand up for the rights of those shunned or mistreated by society. It is a far different thing to exalt unrepentant killers who were convicted following legal trials in courts of law. Mr. Mangi is smart enough to know the difference and has made his choice. He has consistently and even *proudly* advocated *against* those who serve and sacrifice to protect us all. Mr. Mangi's conscious work with the Alliance shows an anti-victim and anti-police bias that would certainly cloud his decision making as a judge.

I appreciate your consideration of our collective concerns with Mr. Mangi and urge you to oppose his nomination to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. If you would like to discuss this issue further feel free to contact William J. Johnsons, Esq., NAPO Executive Director at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

Darrell Kriplean
President