



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives
Representative Jacqueline Parker (R-15)
1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Thursday, April 25, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Representative Jacqueline Parker Calls for Recusal of Attorney General Kris Mayes Citing Politically Motivated Weaponization of Office

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – To ensure fairness and restore trust in the processes that uphold our state’s laws and governance, State Representative Jacqueline Parker, Chairwoman of the House Committee on Executive Oversight (CEO), is calling on Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes to recuse herself from any legal matters involving elected officials and candidates.

In a letter sent today, Chairwoman Parker highlights serious allegations of misconduct, including the misuse of office and statutory authority. Findings from the Committee’s ongoing investigations suggest a consistent use of legal powers to inappropriately target political adversaries, which compromises the integrity of the office.

“Our democracy relies on free and fair elections and the impartial rule of law,” writes CEO Chairwoman Parker. **“The pattern of political abuse from your office is cause for serious concern that these bedrock principles could be under threat if you do not recuse yourself from any complaints involving any elected official or candidate for elected office. Your behavior is unprecedented, unacceptable, and a gross violation of your obligations as a public official. It is increasingly clear that you cannot be trusted with seeking justice or enforcing the laws fairly or in an unbiased manner against anyone you perceive as a political enemy, creating an obvious conflict of interest. Therefore, I demand that you recuse yourself from any complaints received by your office that involve any elected official or candidate for elected office, and instead refer these matters to the appropriate County Attorney with jurisdiction.”**

Chairwoman Parker’s entire letter is attached.

Jacqueline Parker is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 15, which includes East Mesa, Queen Creek, and San Tan Valley. She serves as Chairwoman of the House Municipal Oversight and Elections Committee. Follow her on X/Twitter at @electjacqparker.

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Arizona House of Representatives
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

April 25, 2024

Via Email and U.S. Mail

Hon. Kris Mayes
Arizona Attorney General
2005 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Re: Complaints Involving Elected Officials and Candidates; Demand for Recusal Based on Political Weaponization of the Attorney General's Office

Dear Attorney General Mayes:

As Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Executive Oversight ("CEO"), I have led the investigation into your alleged abuses of office, misuse of statutory authority, and improper weaponization of criminal laws and the Attorney General's Office. Already, the CEO has uncovered a disturbing trend that you have relentlessly and unjustifiably abused your position as Arizona's chief legal officer to harass and threaten your political opponents.

Specifically, the CEO has already received overwhelming evidence that you are weaponizing your office for political purposes. The CEO has heard testimony you refuse to defend laws that do not align with your politics. The CEO has heard testimony you have released a false and misleading consumer alert to target pregnancy centers that provide women with valuable services and resources. The CEO has heard testimony that you have prosecuted, and threatened to prosecute, public officials if they dare disagree with you. With this track record, it could not be more obvious that you are more interested in playing politics than enforcing Arizona's laws as Attorney General. The CEO has sent you multiple inquiries and records requests, and we are still waiting for answers.

Our democracy relies on free and fair elections and the impartial rule of law. The pattern of political abuse from your office is cause for serious concern that these bedrock principles could be under threat if you do not recuse yourself from any complaints involving any elected official or candidate for elected office. Your behavior is unprecedented, unacceptable, and a gross violation of your obligations as a public official. It is increasingly clear that you cannot be trusted with seeking justice or enforcing the laws fairly or in an unbiased manner against anyone you perceive as a political enemy, creating an obvious conflict of interest. **Therefore, I demand that you recuse yourself from any complaints received by your office that involve any elected official or candidate for elected office, and instead refer these matters to the appropriate County Attorney with jurisdiction.**

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacqueline Parker".

Jacqueline Parker
Chair, Committee on Executive Oversight