



**National
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.
For An Equitable Future.*

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July 13, 2026

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chair
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

As President and CEO of the National Urban League, I write to urge members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary to unite in opposition to the nomination of Todd Blanche to serve as Attorney General of the United States. Black communities have already felt the negative impact of his leadership over the Department of Justice (DOJ). Civil rights, voting rights, and police oversight have been neglected while he pursues the president's personal priorities and ignores orders from the judiciary. I ask members of this committee to carefully consider the future of this Department if Mr. Blanche is allowed to continue in this role. On behalf of the National Urban League and our 93 affiliates, I ask that you reject this nomination.

Since the start of the Trump administration, approximately 16,000 employees have either resigned or been fired, including more than 25% of the Department's attorney workforce.¹ Attorneys who remain are being asked to betray their oaths of office and investigate the communities they once protected.

The Civil Rights Division was once known as the crown jewel of the Department. Under Mr. Blanche's leadership, we have seen the largest exodus of civil rights attorneys in DOJ history.² Remaining civil rights attorneys have been effectively barred from enforcing the landmark civil rights laws they swore to uphold. Laws and policies that have a disparate impact on Black Americans are no longer considered violations of the Civil Rights Act.³ Companies that diversify their workforces are being accused of violating the False Claims Act and investigated for advancing "illegal DEI".⁴ Consent decrees and abuse of power

¹Letter from 1,200 former DOJ employees opposing Todd Blanche's Nomination (Justice Connection) July 7, 2026. <https://www.thejusticeconnection.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Letter-from-DOJ-Alumni-on-Todd-Blanche-AG-Nomination.pdf>.

² See Sean Michael Newhouse, *Ex-DOJ civil rights attorneys continue their work 'just not in the division'*, Government Executive (Feb. 27, 2026), <https://www.govexec.com/workforce/2026/02/ex-doj-civil-rights-attorneys-continue-their-work-just-not-division/411770/>; see also Suzanne Monyak, Ben Penn, *Top DOJ Lawyers Exit in Latest Civil Rights Unit Upheaval*, Bloomberg Law (Jan. 13, 2026), <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/us-law-week/top-doj-prosecutors-resign-in-latest-civil-rights-unit-upheaval>.

³ Lydia Wheeler, *Justice Department Using Fraud Law to Target Companies on DEI*, Wall Street Journal (Dec. 28, 2025), <https://www.wsj.com/politics/policy/trump-doj-dei-fraud-investigations-93213d52>; U.S. Dep't of Justice, *Constitutionality of Disparate-Impact Liability Under Title VII*, Memorandum Opinion for the Chair U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Jun. 9, 2026) <https://www.justice.gov/olc/media/1444871/dl>.

⁴ See Lyndsay E. Medlin, *DOJ Is Ramping Up FCA Investigations of DEI Practices in the Private Sector*, National Law Review (Jan. 30, 2026), <https://natlawreview.com/article/doj-ramping-fca-investigations-dei-practices-private-sector>; see also Madeline W. Donley & Victoria L. Killion, CONG. RESEARCH SERV., LSB114110, FALSE CLAIMS ACT



investigations have been abandoned, while civil rights organizations that help Black Americans register to vote are criminalized.⁵

As we approach the November 2026 election, we are most concerned with the posture this Department of Justice has taken towards voting rights. The Department is now supporting state level racial gerrymandering while trying to limit access to mail-in ballots for federal elections.⁶ Letters sent from the Civil Rights Division demand states turn over private voter data and threaten to withhold funding from states that do not comply.⁷ Voting rights attorneys who were previously tasked with upholding the Voting Rights Act are now targeting poll workers in majority-Black communities and threatening state election officials with criminal prosecution.⁸

In his role as Deputy Attorney General and now Acting Attorney General, Todd Blanche has overseen the subversion of the Department. Upholding civil rights laws is not optional. Undermining the rule of law and threatening the Department's founding mission to protect vulnerable communities should be disqualifying. Confirming Mr. Blanche as Attorney General will not only continue to harm our communities, but it would undermine the very idea that all people, regardless of identity or political affiliation, will be treated equally under the law. We urge this Committee to reject the nomination of Mr. Blanche for Attorney General. Our continued progress towards a multiracial democracy depends upon it. The National Urban League, along with our 93 affiliates across the country, stands ready to mobilize, advocate, and partner with this committee to ensure that progress is not reversed. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Marc H. Morial
President & CEO
National Urban League

CC: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

ENFORCEMENT INVOLVING DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION PROGRAMS (2026)
https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/LSB/PDF/LSB11410/LSB11410.1.pdf

⁵ Carol Leonning, Will McDuffie, Alex Tabet, Laura Barron-Lopez, *FBI raids Ohio voting rights organization*, MS Now (Jun. 11, 2026), <https://www.ms.now/news/ohio-pro-democracy-organization-raided-by-fbi>.

⁶ See Brief for the United States as Amicus Curiae Supporting Applicants, *Abbott v. League of United Latin American Citizens*, No. 25A608 (U.S. Nov. 24, 2025); see also U.S. Dep't of Justice, Civil Rights Div., Letter on The State of Michigan's Compliance with Federal Law Governing Voter Eligibility (July 7, 2026) <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/28425163-20260707-doj-letter-and-memo-voter-eligibility/>.

⁷ Gabe Cohen, Tierney Sneed, *Exclusive: Trump administration plans to use homeland security funds to pressure states into election changes*, CNN (Jun. 22, 2026), <https://www.cnn.com/2026/06/22/politics/homeland-security-grants-election-changes>.

⁸ See Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections Subpoena to Testify before a Grand Jury (May 5, 2026) <https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.gand.353743/gov.uscourts.gand.353743.1729.1.pdf>; see also U.S. Dep't of Justice, Civil Rights Div., Letter on The State of Michigan's Compliance with Federal Law Governing Voter Eligibility (July 7, 2026) <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/28425163-20260707-doj-letter-and-memo-voter-eligibility/>.