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Jewish Federation

OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS

SENT VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 15, 2021

Senator Bill Cassidy
3421 N. Causeway Blvd, Ste. 204
Metairie, LA 70002

Senator John Kennedy
500 Poydras St., Suite 364
New Orleans, LA 70130

Dear Senator Cassidy and Senator Kennedy,

On behalf of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans' Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), we are writing to support Kristen Clarke's nomination to serve as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the US Department of Justice (DOJ).

Our expectation for any DOJ nominee is a steadfast commitment to equal justice and civil rights, and Ms. Clarke's record is without parallel. Her professional accomplishments span from leading our nation's preeminent civil rights organizations to federal and state government service, where she has defended fundamental rights for women, workers, people of color, voters, the LGBTQ community, immigrants, and more. We give no weight to the claims of anti-Semitism levied against Ms. Clarke. She has championed civil rights causes throughout her distinguished career, and she is eminently qualified to continue in that pursuit at the DOJ.

The tenet of *tikkun olam* – the Hebrew phrase for “repairing the world” – is a pillar of Judaism and, for many, the essence of what it means to be Jewish. It implies that each person has a hand in working towards the betterment of his or her own existence as well as the lives of future generations. *Tikkun olam* forces people to take ownership of their world. This tradition drives our individual and collective commitment toward a more just world – and Ms. Clarke has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to the practice of *tikkun olam* throughout her impressive career.

We enthusiastically support Kristen Clarke's confirmation to be the next Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the US Department of Justice (DOJ) and urge you to proceed with a swift consideration and confirmation.

Sincerely,

Bradley D. Bain, Co-Chair
Jewish Community Relations Council
Greater New Orleans

Jacquelyn Ann Stern, Co-Chair
Jewish Community Relations Council
Greater New Orleans

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