CLAUDIA TENNEY MEMBER OF CONGRESS NEW YORK 24TH DISTRICT

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington. **BC** 20515-3222

June 13, 2024

Subcommittee on Work and Welfare House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

House Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Health

Subcommittee on Oversight

Subcommittee on Energy

The Honorable Kathy Hochul Governor of New York State New York State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

I write to you with grave concern over the recent verdict in The People of the State of New York v. Donald J. Trump ("The People v. Trump"). This case undermines the impartiality and credibility of our once venerable justice system and cannot be allowed to stand. As a member in good standing of the New York Bar Association, I urge you to pardon President Trump and restore trust in our legal system.

As every American knows, the justice system is designed to be impartial and blind. Individuals who commit crimes should be prosecuted. However, under Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg's failed leadership, the Manhattan DA's office has not investigated crimes, but rather targeted individuals in search of crimes. This is not how the legal system is designed to work.

Mr. Bragg has used a warped version of events to push the manufactured charges in *The People* v. Trump. At best, this decision is legally questionable, at worst it's criminal. In similar cases, Mr. Bragg has neglected to prosecute other individuals, as his only purpose in bringing this case is to target the former President. Targeting any individual, especially for political purposes, is unethical and unconstitutional.

The notion that Mr. Trump's internal business records had an "intent to defraud" when they were not shared outside of his business is ludicrous. Mr. Bragg had no business pursuing this case, which relied on fringe and meritless legal theories that were invented with the sole intent of prosecuting President Trump for political reasons.

Millions of Americans, even those who don't support President Trump, would agree with my assessment of this case and fully support the pardoning of President Trump. This case fully undermines our system of justice and is nothing more than a partisan political prosecution. Even my Democratic colleague from Minnesota, Congressman Dean Phillips, has called on you to pardon President Trump. Pardoning President Trump is not a partisan issue, it's an American issue that is necessary to preserve the integrity of our legal system.

My father was one of the longest serving New York State Supreme Court Justices in New York. He served honorably for 35 years and people across New York witnessed firsthand what true and blind justice looks like.

Mr. Bragg has failed to uphold the high ethical standards required of a lawyer and a District Attorney. It is your solemn duty to protect the Constitutional rights of all defendants before our courts. I now call on you as Governor of the State of New York to restore the integrity of our criminal justice system by pardoning former President Donald J. Trump and removing Alvin Bragg as District Attorney of New York County.

Very truly yours,

Claudia Tenney

Member of Congress