



**State of Louisiana**  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
P.O. BOX 94005  
BATON ROUGE  
70804-9005

Jeff Landry  
Attorney General

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Dear Colleagues,

Today I received the proposed letter to Acting Attorney General Rosen with a request other state Attorneys General sign and add their voices.

As former President of NAAG, I believe in finding common ground on issues. I value you as colleagues and many of you as friends. I believe in finding bipartisan solutions wherever they can be found. What unites us is truly more than what divides us as a Nation and as Attorneys General.

In this instance, however, I am deeply concerned we may be sending a message that some violence is acceptable.

We should all – collectively – decry political violence in whatever shape, form, or fashion it arises. We should be able to stand together, arm-in-arm, to say that all violence and destruction is wrong, no matter what the political motive. We should stand up and fight for the First Amendment, now more than ever, with the message that violence has no part in our Freedom of Speech.

However, over the course of the last summer, when fires were set on the White House grounds and at a church nearby, when buildings of hard working minority small business owners were burned to the ground, when windows were smashed throughout city streets, and widespread looting took place; many of my colleagues, especially those from the other Party, sat silent or tacitly approved of the burning. All of this violence and criminal activity was done in the name of a political motive - ironically, much in the name of social justice. People lost their lives, courthouses and police stations were attacked, small business people and their employees lost their incomes, and some cities were even “occupied” by armed thugs. However, there was silence from many colleagues.

Now when the same type of outrageous and misplaced violence has occurred, this time right within the heart of our Nation’s government, suddenly some of those same Attorneys General want to speak out... seemingly because they view this violence can be tied to a political party other than their own.

**I would say that now is the time for all of us, as one voice, to come together and strongly decry all political violence. We should make it clear that no matter what your political ideology, your political party, or your policy goals; no violence is permissible, ever. Modern day violence cannot make up for past transgressions. Violence is not a solution. Violence only begets more violence.**

We should set an example. We should rise to the occasion. If we cannot, we should all fear for the future.

Sincerely,

Jeff Landry  
Louisiana Attorney General