District Attorney Price,

The Justice Reinvestment Coalition (JRC) congratulates you on your historic election victory and looks forward to working with you to reinvest in Alameda County.

The JRC is composed of community-based organizations committed to reimagining public safety in Alameda County. Families and community voices are at the heart of the JRC and it’s important that the DA push to implement a productive and efficient means to process resentencing. The lack of equity in our judicial system has an impact that extends beyond the disruption, trauma, and the deaths that unjustly impacts people who are sent to Santa Rita.

Diversion programs are the ideal way to reduce harm and reinvest in communities. The JRC supports the DA Table’s demand to develop a clear set of criteria to increase the use of diversion programs and expand eligibility for diversion programs.

It is important that the DA prioritize the needs of those most impacted and their families by navigating this process with empathy and expand reentry program eligibility to help individuals transition home. Additionally, we urge the DA to collaborate with Alameda Public Defender’s immigration unit, other private counsel, and community groups to take immigration status into consideration when reviewing cases to reduce the risk of redundant and unnecessary immigration holds that would withhold a person’s freedom or ability to return home.

Police accountability is necessary to dismantle a system of mass incarceration. As the 100-day plan recognizes, the DA is the only entity within the criminal legal system which is responsible for addressing police misconduct. Communities cannot be protected if police are corrupt and targeting Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

Additionally, we want to applaud the efforts you have made thus far in your term for keeping campaign promises. We support your decision to seek lower prison sentences, probation over incarceration, and the decision to reduce sentencing enhancements, including the case of Logwood.
While this does not reduce the number of people going to prison, it prioritizes rehabilitation and recovery to reduce the chances of recidivism. We recognize the effort you take to understand the victims and those prosecuted as whole human beings who have hurt and been hurt, and identify ways for accountability, fair consequences, and healing. The criminal justice system as it stands, is biased against BIPOC in a way that perpetuates cycles of hate, poverty, and anger. We hope that the continued implementation of policies asked for by the 100 days-plan will allow us to ultimately heal and create a stronger, safer, community.

*The Justice Reinvestment Coalition is deeply invested in the action and goals of the DA Accountability Table and support their 100 days plan.*

Sincerely,
The Justice Reinvestment Coalition & Allies

*Including the following...*
*Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice*
*Urban Strategies Council*
*Oakland Rising/Action*
*East Bay Law Center*
*National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform*
*ACLU Norcal*
*The American Friends Service Committee*
*Asian Prisoner Support Committee*
*All of Us or None, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children*