

U.S. Department of Justice Office of the Deputy Attorney General

The Deputy Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

July 29, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL EMPLOYEES

FROM: THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL (in Maraco

SUBJECT: STEERING COMMITTEE TO REVIEW SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICIES

The Department of Justice is committed to providing a workplace free from sexual harassment and misconduct. As recognized by Executive Order 14020, gender equity and equality are matters of human rights, justice, and fairness. It is therefore critical to our duty as principled defenders of the law to combat sexual harassment and misconduct in our own workplace and hold offenders accountable for their actions.

Protecting our employees and contractors is one of the Department's top priorities. In keeping with our commitment to both ensure a safe workplace and advance gender equality, I am empaneling a Steering Committee to review the sexual harassment policies of the Department's components and evaluate whether the current polices serve the needs of its workforce. The Department last issued directives related to sexual harassment in 2018 providing the guiding principles that components were to incorporate into their own policies and practices.

The Steering Committee will review the current policies and practices across the Department, as well as existing training, education, and awareness efforts. This process will solicit and incorporate input from stakeholders, including the Department's affinity groups and others.

The Steering Committee will develop recommendations to ensure that the Department's policies are consistent, cohesive, and effective at satisfying its obligations to prevent sexual harassment and misconduct and meeting the needs of its workforce.

The Steering Committee will be chaired by two Senior Officials from the Office of the Deputy Attorney General and will include representatives from across the Department. I have directed the Steering Committee to complete its work and provide recommendations to me within 180 days. I am also directing the Steering Committee to reach out to all Heads of Components, who shall identify a senior official who will serve as a point of contact to work with the Steering Committee.

Memorandum for All Employees Subject: Steering Committee to Review Sexual Harassment Policies

The Department of Justice strives to maintain a model workplace. I look forward to the work of the Steering Committee as we continue to reinforce the Department's core values and address this critical issue.