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December 16, 2021

Odinet Press Release – Support or Resign

We, the members of the Lafayette Parish Democratic Executive Committee, are requesting statements from public officials, members of the justice community, and community leaders as to their support of City Court Judge Michelle Odinet continuing as an elected official.

We will not dignify Judge Odinet's behavior by repeating her reprehensible transgressions and statements as recorded on video and audio as widely distributed through the local and national media.

We believe that Judge Odinet will not be an effective member of the justice community. For, a number of attorneys are already calling for her to recuse herself when hearing cases involving issues that might be influenced from a broad array of concerns. These concerns are primarily related to race, but also touching on social justice and equality before the law.

As a result, her role on the bench will be limited and ineffective.

Let there be no equivocation in public statements in calling for her to resign or in statements of support.

Let their statements be on the record on social media or to the press.

Let public officials, members of the bar, and community leaders choose their words carefully and to the point.

We will not seek clarifications.

Silence will be understood as support.