



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5, 2022

**National Lawyers' Group, ABA Presidents Rebuke Political
Hate Speech, Rally Behind Senator McMorrow**

BOSTON — The nonpartisan organization [Lawyers Defending American Democracy](#) (LDAD), today released a [Call-to-Action](#), already signed by approximately 550 prominent attorneys from a wide variety of backgrounds, expressing alarm at the proliferation of political hate speech in America and calling on lawyers to defend and recommit to the norms of political behavior on which our democracy depends. This Call-to-Action is a critical response to the threats and intimidation that public officials and candidates are now facing, simply because of the positions that they take.

New Mexico attorney and first female President of the American Bar Association **Roberta Cooper Ramo**, is one of six former ABA presidents who have signed the Call-to-Action. Ms. Ramo emphasized the importance of civil discourse in our democracy, stating:

"For our democracy to succeed, civic discourse, including political discourse, should be based on facts and we should hold our leaders to this standard."

Acclaimed Emmy-nominated writer, producer, and professor **Michael Sardo** applauded LDAD's Call-to-Action, stating:

"Let's hold our leaders to the same standards we use for our children: lying is wrong. Insults are not facts. Fear is not a plan."

The Call-to-Action cites the recent political attack on **Michigan Senator Mallory McMorrow** who was the subject of a fundraising letter in which a fellow Michigan Senator, stated:

"Progressive social media trolls like Senator Mallory McMorrow [D-Snowflake] who are outraged they can't teach can't groom and sexualize kindergarteners or that 8-year-olds are responsible for slavery."

In a [speech](#) on the Michigan Senate floor, Senator McMorrow responded:

"Hate will only win if people like me stand by and let it happen... We will not let hate win."

LDAD, in this latest Call-to-Action, calls on all lawyers to commit to make this the rallying cry for restoring decency and civility to our public conversations.

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