

Our job is to uphold the rule of law.

That means that we apply the same laws to everyone.

There is not one set of laws for the powerful and another for the powerless; one for the rich, another for the poor; one for Democrats, another for Republicans; or different rules, depending upon one's race or ethnicity or religion.

Our job is to pursue justice, without fear or favor.

Our job is not to do what is politically convenient.

Our job is not to take orders from the President, from Congress, or from anyone else, about who or what to criminally investigate.

As the President himself has said, and I reaffirm here today: I am not the President's lawyer. I will also add that I am not Congress's prosecutor. The Justice Department works for the American people.

Our job is to follow the facts and the law, wherever they lead. And that is what we do.

All of us at the Justice Department recognize that with this work comes public scrutiny, criticism, and legitimate oversight. These are appropriate and important given the gravity of the matters before the Department.

But singling out individual career public servants who are just doing their jobs is dangerous -- particularly at a time of increased threats to the safety of public servants and their families.

We will not be intimidated. We will do our jobs free from outside interference. And we will not back down from defending our democracy.