

PRESS RELEASES >

ACLU Reacts to President Trump's Latest Directive Threatening Lawyers and Law Firms

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WASHINGTON — In response to President Trump issuing a presidential memorandum on “[Preventing Abuses of the Legal System and the Federal Court](#)” yesterday, **Cecillia Wang, National Legal Director of the American Civil Liberties Union**, issued the following statement:

“Last night, President Trump took yet another step toward dismantling our nation’s rule of law by issuing a directive

attacking American lawyers who work in the areas of national security, public safety, and election integrity.

“By targeting prominent voting rights attorney Marc Elias, along with unnamed lawyers who have worked on immigration cases, and threatening them with sanctions, President Trump is attempting to silence those who embody the mission and ideals of the legal profession — representing the people in the orderly resolution of disputes in the court system and, critically, holding government officials to account when they violate the people’s rights.

“This action by the President of the United States is a chilling and unprecedented attack on the foundations of liberty and democracy. Good lawyers, regardless of ideology or party, will remain undeterred in the honorable pursuit of our profession. We will continue to stand up for the people and the rule of law.”
