



NAACP
DENVER

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9/8/2025

Mayor Mike Johnston
City and County of Denver

Re: Support for the Nomination of Mr. Al Gardner as Executive Director of Public Safety

Dear Mayor Johnston,

On behalf of the Denver Branch of the NAACP, we would like to express our strong support for your nomination of Mr. Al Gardner as Denver's next Executive Director of Public Safety.

The safety and well-being of Denver's residents are paramount, and we believe that effective leadership is characterized by transparency, accountability, and the cultivation of trust between public safety institutions and the communities they serve.

Mr. Gardner's extensive experience and unwavering commitment to equity, community engagement, and collaboration position him well to oversee the City's police, fire, and law enforcement services with both integrity and vision. His leadership style underscores the importance of not only enforcement but also the building of relationships, the assurance of fairness, and the fostering of confidence among Denver's diverse communities.

We are optimistic that Mr. Gardner will bring both experience and empathy to this vital role, advancing policies that support justice, equity, and public trust. The Denver Branch of the NAACP is eager to collaborate with Mr. Gardner in strengthening the relationship between our city's public safety agencies and the communities they serve. We are confident that under his leadership, Denver will progress toward a safer, more just, and more inclusive future.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this nomination.

Yours in Community,

Tony D. Henderson

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