

May 4, 2022

Jessica E. Yates
Attorney Regulation Counsel
Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center
Colorado Supreme Court
1300 Broadway, Suite 500
Denver, CO 80203

**Re: Request for Investigation of Jenna L. Ellis (also known as Jenna Lynn Rives),¹
Colorado Registration Number 44026**

Dear Ms. Yates:

We write to request that the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel investigate evidence of professional misconduct by Jenna Ellis in connection with her representation of former President Donald J. Trump in efforts to discredit and overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election. We concur in the view of the enclosed memorandum that there is substantial reason to investigate whether Ms. Ellis violated Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 4.1, 5.1, and/or 8.4(a), (c), and (h) through her actions on behalf of her client Mr. Trump in late 2020 and January 2021, culminating in their efforts to convince then-Vice President Mike Pence to decline to count the lawfully certified electoral votes from six states at the time prescribed by law, at the January 6, 2021 Joint Session of Congress.

We draw your attention to Ms. Ellis's conduct because we believe in the importance of protecting the rule of law by holding those who are sworn to defend it accountable under professional standards. Lawyers, including those who represent elected and appointed officials, have a solemn duty to the public to advise their clients within the parameters of the law, and to ensure that they do not allow themselves to become the tools by which those officials seek to undermine democratic governance. Our state supreme courts and state bars set standards of professional responsibility for lawyers to ensure that in their zealous defense of their clients, lawyers also serve as the guardians of the rule of law.

We accordingly urge an investigation into the issues discussed in the enclosed memorandum, in which our concerns regarding Ms. Ellis's conduct are set forth. Thank you in advance for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ambassador Norman Eisen (ret.)
Founder and Executive Chair, States United Democracy Center
Former White House Special Counsel for Ethics and Government Reform

¹ We refer to Ms. Ellis using the name she used during the conduct at issue in the complaint, but we note that she is licensed in Colorado under the name Jenna Lynn Rives.

Joanna Lydgate
Founder and Chief Executive Officer, States United Democracy Center
Former Chief Deputy Attorney General of Massachusetts

Governor Christine Todd Whitman
Founder and Co-Chair, States United Democracy Center
Former Governor of New Jersey

Governor Steve Bullock
Former Governor of Montana
Former Attorney General of Montana

Dean Erwin Chemerinsky
Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law, University of California, Berkeley,
School of Law

Representative Tom Coleman
Former Member of Congress from Missouri

Honorable Frankie Sue Del Papa
Former Attorney General of Nevada

Professor Claire Finkelstein
Algernon Biddle Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy
Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law, Faculty Director
University of Pennsylvania

Honorable Jim Hood
Former Attorney General of Mississippi

Honorable Patricia A. Madrid
Former Attorney General of New Mexico

Professor Richard W. Painter
S. Walter Richey Professor of Corporate Law, University of Minnesota Law School
Former Associate Counsel to the President and chief White House ethics lawyer

Honorable Sarah Saldaña
Former Director, Immigration & Customs Enforcement
Former U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Texas

Professor Laurence H. Tribe
Carl M. Loeb University Professor *Emeritus*, Harvard University
Professor of Constitutional Law *Emeritus*, Harvard Law School

All titles and affiliations are listed for identification purposes only.