



CITIZENS FOR
RESPONSIBILITY &
ETHICS IN WASHINGTON

November 3, 2022

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
1100 S. Ocean Blvd
Palm Beach, FL 33480

Dear Mr. Trump,

I am writing on behalf of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (“CREW”) to notify you that, should you seek or secure any future elected or appointed government office including the presidency of the United States, we will pursue your disqualification under Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment based on your engaging in the insurrection that culminated on January 6, 2021.

The United States Constitution establishes basic qualifications for holding the office of president, as well as circumstances under which an individual may be disqualified from holding future office. Article II, Section 1 states that a president must be at least 35 years of age, must be a natural born citizen, and must have lived in the United States for at least 14 years. Article I, Section 3 provides that conviction on articles of impeachment results in removal from office and may extend to disqualification from holding “any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States.” And Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment provides that no individual who engages in insurrection or rebellion against the Constitution—after having previously taken an oath to support it—shall hold any federal or state office (unless Congress, by a vote of two-thirds in each house, removes such disability). Per Article VI, Clause 2, these and other provisions of the Constitution are “the supreme Law of the Land;” all federal and state officials are bound by them.

CREW believes you are barred from holding office under Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment because you engaged in insurrection against the Constitution you swore to defend. On January 20, 2017, you stood on the West Front of the United States Capitol, placed your left hand on the Bible, and swore a sacred oath to “preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.” On January 6, 2021, an insurrection that you incited culminated in a violent attack on the same hallowed grounds, where Congress was meeting to certify the Electoral College results of the 2020 presidential election pursuant to the Twelfth Amendment and the Electoral Count Act, 3 U.S.C. § 15. By summoning a violent mob to disrupt the transition of presidential power mandated by the Constitution after having sworn to defend the same, you made yourself ineligible to hold public office again. The evidence that you engaged in insurrection as contemplated by the Fourteenth Amendment

–including by mobilizing, inciting, and aiding those who attacked the Capitol–is overwhelming.

CREW is resolved to restore the fundamental expectation that sustains our democracy—that the American people elect their leaders and that government leaders accept those results. If you seek elected or appointed office despite being constitutionally disqualified under Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment for engaging in insurrection, we and others loyal to the Constitution will defend it.

Sincerely,



Noah Bookbinder
President and Chief Executive Officer
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington