



# CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION OF NEW YORK CITY

**For Immediate Release:** March 12, 2017

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## **Crime Commission President Aborn Responds to Trump Firing of U.S. Attorney Bharara**

**New York City** - In response to President Trump's firing of United States Attorney for the Southern District Preet Bharara, **Citizens Crime Commission President Richard Aborn** released the following statement:

"Preet Bharara was an independent champion for justice in New York, using only the public's best interest as a motive for his prosecutions. Whether the offender was a big bank or a powerful politician, Bharara doggedly pursued those who attempted to use their wealth and power to operate above the law.

"Bharara's dismissal is damaging to the public's trust in government and rule of law, which depends on the peoples' faith that justice is transparently administered without fear or favor. Like Acting Attorney General Sally Yates, who was fired in January for standing up to the Trump Administration, Bharara was asked to stay on by the president before being dismissed--so it is appropriate to ask if Bharara was fired simply because there was a changing of the guard in Washington, or if his record of independence was threatening to this White House. Regardless, the dismissal of Yates and Bharara sends a chilling message to those who may dare confront the Administration.

"Eastern District United States Attorney Robert Capers will also be missed in New York, where he also pursued public corruption cases as an assistant and then chief of his office. At a time when renewing trust in our government could not be more important, it is troubling to see these fighters for good government dismissed from their crucial roles in our criminal justice system."

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About the Citizens Crime Commission:

The Crime Commission is a non-partisan non-profit organization working to make New York City's criminal justice and public safety policies and practices more effective through innovation, research, and education. For more information on the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, please visit our website: [www.nycrimecommission.org](http://www.nycrimecommission.org)

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