

American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity

Commends the President and the Senate on the Nomination and Confirmation of

Loretta Lynch, the Nation’s First African-American Woman for Attorney General

The Association of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Professionals Salutes the Selection of this Outstanding Lawyer and Public Servant for the Nation’s Highest Legal Office

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Washington, DC – April 23, 2015. The American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity (AAAED) salutes the Senate confirmation of Loretta Lynch for Attorney General of the United States. “In an act of rare bi-partisanship Loretta Lynch, the current United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, was confirmed today by a vote of 53 to 46,” said Marshall Rose, president of AAAED. “We who work daily to promote access, equity and diversity are delighted to have witnessed the confirmation of the first African-American female Attorney General of the United States” he added.

While it is unfortunate that Ms. Lynch, a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, had the rare distinction to be the first Attorney General nominee to have to face a cloture vote to be confirmed, and to suffer a five month delay, it is hoped that this experience will be a lesson to the United States Congress that an excellent public servant of any race or gender should not be made to fall victim to the vagaries of extreme partisanship and that the nation’s elected officials should be about the business of the people who sent them to Washington to govern.

“We thank the Senate’s Democratic leadership and the Republicans who voted to support Ms. Lynch, including Senators Ayotte (N.H.), Cochran (Miss.), Collins (Maine), Flake (Ariz.), Graham (S.C.), Hatch (Utah), Johnson (Wis.), Kirk (Ill.), Portman (Ohio) and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (Ky.)” said Kevin Antoine, AAAED Legislative Chair.

“We would also like to commend the stewardship of outgoing Attorney General Eric Holder, whose accomplishments and leadership on a number of issues including criminal justice and equal opportunity will be long remembered. He has served the nation with distinction, he added.”

*Founded in 1974 as the American Association for Affirmative Action (AAAA), AAAED is a national not-for-profit association of professionals working in the areas of equal opportunity, compliance and diversity. AAAED has 40 years of leadership in providing professional training to members, enabling them to be more successful and productive in their careers. It also promotes understanding and advocacy of affirmative action and other equal opportunity laws to enhance the tenets of access, inclusion and equality in employment, economic and educational opportunities. ###*