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Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein Announces Office's Position on Prosecuting Abortion Cases following Supreme Court Decision

Says City Attorney's Office will use prosecutorial discretion to focus on prosecuting individuals who are violent and/or repeat offenders rather than interfering with women's healthcare decisions

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced that Columbus joined a [bipartisan group of elected prosecutors](#) in cities across the country who will not prioritize prosecution of those who seek, assist in or provide abortions following the U.S. Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade last week. City Attorney Klein's announcement also comes as a judicial stay on Ohio's near total abortion ban was lifted Friday, essentially banning abortion after six weeks in the state.

City Attorney Klein's statement is below:

“Columbus residents have entrusted us to use our best judgment in deciding how to allocate limited resources to prosecute cases. As City Attorney, I have always prioritized prosecuting violent crime, cases of domestic violence, repeat offenders who have no regard to victims or property, and going after dangerous criminals who make our neighborhoods less safe.

“Using limited criminal justice resources to prosecute personal healthcare decisions runs counter to my obligations to pursue justice and promote public safety. We will continue to use our prosecutorial discretion to put the safety and security of Columbus residents first by allocating our resources to target the most serious crimes facing our community.”

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