March 13, 2024

The Honorable Jeff Zients  
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Anita B. Dunn  
Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Lael Brainard  
Assistant to the President and Director, National Economic Council  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Gautam Raghavan  
Assistant to the President and Director, Presidential Personnel Office  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Zients, Ms. Dunn, Dr. Brainard, and Mr. Raghavan:

On behalf of the millions of diverse professionals, employees, pension holders, and investors we represent, we urge you to nominate Kristin Johnson for the position of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions. Across all administrations, Black people have traditionally been woefully underrepresented in senior and mid-level roles in the Treasury Department and other top economic policy roles in the White House and the Executive Branch.

We strongly support the candidacy of Kristin Johnson for the role of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions. Kristin Johnson who serves as a Commissioner at the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) is an outstanding public servant nominated by President Biden and unanimously confirmed by the US Senate and would continue to be an amazing asset to your economic policy team and the country at the Treasury Department. Her time at the CFTC, in academia, and also in the private sector demonstrates her expertise in complex policy and regulatory matters. She is known to the civil rights community as committed to shared priorities, mission work, and she would bring strong leadership to this Treasury role.
The Office of Financial Institutions’ oversight of financial services companies, community development financial institutions, consumer policy, and cybersecurity would benefit from her broad range of insights and diverse professional experience. It is important to have racially diverse leaders serving in Treasury’s Domestic Finance team who can be “in the room” to help develop policy but also help communicate the President’s initiatives to communities on the ground. Commissioner Johnson would bring much needed diversity to the Treasury Department and the Administration’s broader economic policy team, be a committed partner to our work, and serve as an outstanding contributor in this capacity.

We appreciate your commitment to championing economic policies and driving meaningful change addressing issues of racial and economic justice. We look forward to continuing to engage with you on the importance of having racially diverse leaders in key economic policy roles. We hope that you will consider favorably our support for Kristin Johnson’s candidacy for this critical role at the Treasury Department. Thanks for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Black Economic Alliance
Diverse Asset Managers Initiative
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
NAACP
National Association of Investment Companies
National Association of Securities Professionals
National Bankers Association
National Urban League
Potomac Coalition
The Executive Leadership Council

CC: Rep. Steven Horsford, Chairman, Congressional Black Caucus