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## Trump names Pam Bondi as attorney general after Gaetz withdrawal



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US President-elect Donald Trump has announced Pam Bondi as his nominee for attorney general, following the withdrawal of Congressman Matt Gaetz from consideration. Bondi, a seasoned prosecutor and former Florida attorney general, has been a close ally of Trump, defending him during his first impeachment trial and serving on his legal team during his presidency.

Announcing the pick, Trump highlighted Bondi's tough-on-crime record during her nearly 20 years as a prosecutor in Florida. "Pam was very tough on violent criminals and made the streets safe for Florida families," Trump said in a social media post.

Bondi, 59, has remained a prominent figure in Trump's orbit, playing roles on his Opioid and Drug Abuse Commission and later leading the legal arm of the America First Policy Institute. She has also been a vocal critic of the criminal investigations against Trump, pledging to combat what Trump calls the "weaponized" Department of Justice.

If confirmed by the Senate, Bondi will oversee the Justice Department's 115,000 employees and a \$45 billion budget. She is expected to spearhead Trump's agenda, including targeting political opponents, securing borders, and restoring public trust in the justice system.

Trump described Bondi as a key figure in his plans to refocus the department on fighting crime and protecting Americans, signaling her central role in his vision for the DOJ.