Statement from Attorneys General Frosh and Racine on Court’s Ruling in Emolument Lawsuit

BALTIMORE, MD (July 10, 2019) - Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh and District of Columbia Attorney General Karl A. Racine today issued the following joint statement on today’s Fourth Circuit Court ruling in the emoluments lawsuit brought by the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia:

“We think that this panel of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals got it wrong. Although the court described a litany of ways in which this case is unique, it failed to acknowledge the most extraordinary circumstance of all: President Trump is brazenly profiting from the Office of the President in ways that no other President in history ever imagined and that the founders expressly sought—in the Constitution—to prohibit. We have not and will not abandon our efforts to hold President Trump accountable for violating the Nation’s original anti-corruption laws. We believe that the federal trial judge correctly decided that the plaintiffs have standing -- and that discovery should go forward on President Trump’s receipt of emoluments. All Americans suffer when our chief executive is vulnerable to corrupt foreign influence. The idea that the District of Columbia and Maryland are not harmed by the President’s violation of the Constitution is plain error. We will continue to pursue our legal options to hold him accountable.”