



Council on American-Islamic Relations

CAIR Office in Maryland

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November 17, 2023

Theodore Leslie DeWeese, M.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Johns Hopkins Medicine
401 N. Broadway
Baltimore, MD 21231

Kevin W. Sowers, M.S.N., R.N., F.A.A.N.
Executive Vice President
Johns Hopkins Medicine
401 N. Broadway
Baltimore, MD 21231

Subject: Immediate Termination – Dr. Darren Klugman, MD, Medical License #D89740

Dear Dr. DeWeese and Mr. Sowers:

On behalf of the Maryland office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), I am writing to call for the **immediate termination of Dr. Darren Klugman, MD**. CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization.

Earlier this week, my office submitted a formal complaint to the Maryland Board of Physicians calling for an investigation to confirm the validity of deeply troubling posts attributed to this physician, and for his medical license to be revoked if they were substantiated to be authentic.

We are dismayed to have received confirmation from multiple sources within Johns Hopkins Medicine that Dr. Klugman reportedly admits to writing these appalling posts. Today, we submitted an updated complaint to the Maryland Board of Physicians now calling for his medical license to be revoked immediately.

In order to protect vulnerable populations, maintain the integrity of your medical institutions, and to restore some measure of trust among families who seek medical care, **we are calling on you to terminate this physician's employment with Johns Hopkins Medicine/Johns Hopkins Children's Center.**

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In his posts (See Appendix A), Dr. Klugman smeared Palestinians as “barbaric animals,” expressed his support for their “large scale slaughter” and forced displacement, and labeled them as “people who rape and murder civilians.”

This social media activity promoting violent views and racist ideologies, and exposing deep-rooted animus towards an entire ethno-national group, have irrevocably tarnished his credibility and integrity as a healthcare provider.

The shocking comments, which have been widely shared and circulated, have caused deep distress within communities across Baltimore and across the nation. They have sparked legitimate fears about the potential impact of such sentiments on the well-being of vulnerable populations – particularly, Dr. Klugman’s patients at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center, where he serves as Director of the Pediatric Cardiac Critical Care Unit. They have raised substantial ethical and professional concerns.

The hospital is located in the heart of a very diverse city which is also home to many Muslim, Arab and Palestinian-American families, some who have had family members killed in Gaza. A significant number of patients travel to Johns Hopkins Hospital from Arab and Muslim countries each year to receive what they perceive is world-class care.

We’ve learned from healthcare workers at Johns Hopkins Hospital that some of these families feel deeply betrayed by hospital administrators’ delay in handling this situation. Our office has also heard from families whose children have received care both in Dr. Klugman’s unit and throughout the hospital, who are now second-guessing medical decisions that have been made during their stay and have, in several cases, taken their children elsewhere.

Yesterday, CAIR was forwarded Dr. Klugman’s apology that he emailed to some of his colleagues following the controversy that erupted earlier this week; unfortunately, the apology is being perceived by many as an effort to protect professional and personal interests, rather than as a reflection of genuine remorse or regret for his views.

As you are aware, the medical profession holds a position of great trust in society, and physicians are expected to adhere to the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and ethical conduct. The views expressed by Dr. Klugman on social media not only violate these principles, but also call into question his ability to provide non-biased, compassionate care to patients of diverse backgrounds. **Trust – an integral component of the doctor/patient relationship – has been irreparably harmed** among colleagues and patients’ families.

Therefore, we are calling on **Johns Hopkins Hospital to terminate Dr. Klugman’s employment effective immediately**, and we are calling on the **Maryland Board of Physicians to revoke his medical license, also effective immediately**. These measures are necessary in order to preserve the integrity of healthcare systems in our state, restore a measure of community confidence within your body, and maintain the highest standards of compassionate care, professionalism and ethical conduct.

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As we navigate this ordeal, CAIR urges you to also issue a written reminder to all healthcare workers in your network that regardless of global events or personal viewpoints, they must be able to demonstrate that they can objectively and impartially care for all diverse patient populations with the utmost care and diligence.

We believe that addressing this matter promptly and transparently is essential in upholding the values of the medical profession and safeguarding the well-being of your patients. We thank you for your attention to this serious matter, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



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Appendix A

 **Darren Klugman** @DrKlugs · 10/8/23 ...
These are the Palestinians. Blood thirsty morally depraved animals who want nothing short of every inch of Israel and all Jews dead. Stop telling me about peace partners....time to reclaim every inch of Israel for Jews.
[#hamasattack](#) [#IsraelUnderAttack](#) [#Israel](#)


 **Darren Klugman** @DrKlugs · 10/8/23 ...
All of you asking for moderation and peace, stare at this beautiful family. Don't look away. Israel has no peace partner w the Palestinians. Barbaric animals w no concern for life. [#Israel](#) [#IsraelUnderAttack](#) [#StandWithIsrael](#)

 **Darren Klugman** @DrKlugs · 10/7/23 ...
[#Palestinians](#) showing world exactly who they are & what they want- dead Jews & no more [#Israel](#). Just savage animals. @OmriHurwitz Don't talk moderation, peace, Israeli aggression. Time to reclaim Gaza since 2005 & end Iran nuclear program. The time is now. [#IsraelUnderAttack](#)

 I hope you're right. Jordan is 70% Palestinian Arab and the mountains separating Israel from Jordan are a natural, secure border. Israel was never Palestine and Jordan already is.
2 2 39 1.6K

 **Darren Klugman** @DrKlugs · 10/7/23 ...
Lots of sand for Palestinians in Sinai which Israel gave to Egypt. Give them all 48h to get there....

 **Mariam Barghouti** مريم البرغوثي · 10/8/23 ...
Israeli policy-makers are calling quite literally for a large scale slaughter.
They're demanding for the revival of the Nakba Doctrine— spread out massacres across a year to displace Palestinians.
62 281 545 32K

 **Darren Klugman** @DrKlugs **Follow** ...
G-d willing.

 **Mariam Barghouti** مريم البرغوثي · 10/7/23 ...
Lmao Gazans managed to outdo the most technologically advanced and funded surveillance program in an hour, with almost no resources, and 20 years in a cage.
64 304 1.3K 62K

 **Darren Klugman** @DrKlugs · 10/7/23 ...
Says the woman of a people that rape and murder civilians. If nothing else, at least you're a consistent POS
1 2 357

 **Darren Klugman** @DrKlugs · 10/7/23 ...
[#Palestinians](#) showing world exactly who they are & what they want- dead Jews & no more [#Israel](#). Just savage animals. @OmriHurwitz Don't talk moderation, peace, Israeli aggression. Time to reclaim Gaza since 2005 & end Iran nuclear program. The time is now. [#IsraelUnderAttack](#)

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