PROTECT the PUBLIC'S TRUST

COMPLAINT OF PHYSICIAN MISCONDUCT

Dr. Kevin O'Connor

Statement of Facts

Based upon information and belief, Dr. Kevin Charles O'Connor, DO, is licensed to practice medicine in the District of Columbia.[1] He became a White House physician, beginning in 2006 during the Bush-Cheney administration.[2] He became the personal physician of then Vice President Joe Biden in 2009, remained the Biden family's personal physician while he was not holding office, then became Physician to the President during the Biden Administration.[3]

In May 2025, it was announced that former President Biden was diagnosed with aggressive prostate cancer.[4] However, cancer experts have reported that it is "inconceivable" that such a diagnosis could have occurred without detection prior to May 2025.[5] Howard Forman, professor of radiology and biomedical imagining at the Yale School of Medicine, said that a "Gleason grade 9 would have had an elevated PSA level for some time before this diagnosis," and that "he must have had a PSA test numerous times before. This is odd." He added, "It's just so odd to discover this with bone [metastasis] in a man of his stature and access to care."[6]

Dr. Nick James of the Institute of Cancer Research in the U.K. said it is "very surprising" that the first diagnosis showed the cancer has metastasized. "It has to

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[1] "Profile: Kevin Charles O'Connor, DO," DocInfo, (accessed June 4, 2025), https://www.docinfo.org/doctor-profile/e9fbfada-a978-4f8c-bb14-5b2bd3d955e3?docname=Kevin%20O%27Connor&pracType=Physician&licstate=all&from=0&size=30.

[2] "Kevin O'Connor," New York Institute of Technology, (accessed June 4, 2025), https://site.nyit.edu/news/profiles/kevin_oconnor.

[3] Caroline Vakil, "5 Things to Know about Biden Doctor Kevin O'Connor," The Hill, May 20, 2025, https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5309880-biden-prostate-cancer-diagnosis-physician-scrutiny/.

[4] Josh Boak, "Biden Has Been Diagnosed With Aggressive Prostate Cancer," Associated Press, May 19, 2025https://apnews.com/article/biden-cancer-prostate-be18c98abe341cd91277e1d3b75d5cd5.

[5] Khaleda Rahman, Biden Cancer Announcement Raises New Questions Over White House Transparency," Newsweek, May 19, 2025, https://www.newsweek.com/biden-cancer-announcement-questions-transparency-2074077.

[6] Ibid.

be possible, but it is very unusual if you're having regular health checks to suddenly go from non-metastatic, not detectable to metastatic, very detectable."[7]

Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, an oncologist who worked as an advisor to the Biden White House during Covid, stated that it is likely that President Biden was ill with cancer long before leaving office. "He did not develop in the last 100, 200 days. He had it while he was president. He probably had it at the start of his presidency in 2021."[8]

Dr. Chris George of Northwestern Health Network stated, "It's sort of hard for me to believe that he's had a (blood test) within the past year that was normal."[9]

Yet President Biden's last Health Summary, authored by O'Connor, mentioned nothing about cancer or his prostate. We know from the other portions of the Summary that he had blood work because lipid panels, hemoglobin, blood glucose, and other blood related tests are mentioned. He closes the memorandum by stating "President Biden is a healthy, active, robust 81-year-old male, who remains fit to successfully execute the duties of the Presidency."[10]

Physician Disciplinary Standards

The Board of Medicine possesses the authority to receive and review complaints of violations of District of Columbia law regulating health occupations, including those who practice medicine.[11] Disciplinary action may be taken against "a person permitted by this subchapter to practice a health occupation regulated by the board in the District who," among other things, does the following:

- Willfully makes or files a false report or record in the practice of a health occupation;
- Willfully makes a misrepresentation in treatment;
- Fails to conform to standards of acceptable conduct and prevailing practice within a health profession;

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[7] Ibid.
[8] Max Matza, "Biden's Cancer Diagnosis Raises Fresh Questions About His Health in White House," BBC, May 20, 2025, https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cwyn0zm8d20o.
[9] Ibid.
[10] The White House-Physician to the President, "President Biden's Current Health Summary," Biden White House, Feb. 28, 2024, https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Health-Summary-2.28.pdf.
[11] D.C. Code §§3-1202.03; 1204.08.

- Demonstrates a willful or careless disregard for the health, welfare, or safety of a patient, regardless of whether the patient sustains actual injury as a result;
- Engages in conduct in their practice that is unprofessional or creates a deleterious impact on the public's impression of the profession.[12]

Dr. O'Connor's role as White House physician involved obligations beyond those governing other health care providers. Under a normal physician-patient relationship, a physician's sole duty is to the medical care of the patient. In such circumstances, withholding information about a patient's condition from friends, family members, and others may be synonymous with providing for the health, welfare, or safety of a patient himself. Even further, the White House physician performs a dual role and has a duty to the American public as well as to the president as his patient. As described by former White House Physician and Professor of Medicine Lawrence C. Mohr:

> Illness or injury of the president of the United States can have significant political, economic, diplomatic, and military consequences for the nation. White House physicians, who provide medical care for the president, have responsibilities that go far beyond the usual scope of medical practice. They have a responsibility to the president as an individual patient and a responsibility to the nation through the care they provide. The nature of these dual responsibilities confront White House physicians with a variety of unique issues, including presidential disability, implementation of the 25th Amendment, and a president's right to privacy versus the public's right to know about a president's state of health.[13]

Analysis

Dr. O'Connor is left with two unenviable choices. Either he failed to meet the minimum standard of care owed President Biden and the American public by not detecting a cancer that likely developed under his watch (or that had developed previously, in which case he should also have detected it), or he submitted a false

[12] D.C. Code §3-1205.14.
[13] Lawrence C. Mohr, M.D. F.A.C.P., F.C.C.P., "The White House Physician: Role, Responsibilities, and Issues, JSTOR, Dec. 1995, https://www.jstor.org/stable/3791893.

report as a part of his official duties. Either way, such actions could subject him to discipline by the Board of Medicine.

As stated above, it is highly unlikely that prostate cancer progressed as significantly as it did within the handful of months preceding the diagnosis. It is far more probable that the cancer has been growing over the course of some time. With the thorough care that President Biden was receiving,[14] the diagnosis should have been caught long before it metastasized to the bone. If the cancer diagnosis went undetected by Dr. O'Connor, he likely failed to conform to the standards of acceptable conduct and prevailing practice within a health profession and/or demonstrated willful or careless disregard for the health, welfare, or safety of a patient.

On the flip side, if Dr. O'Connor knew of the cancer, then he concealed it, likely to help President Biden's chances at getting re-elected or to prevent him from being declared unfit for office. Regardless of the reason, however, he authored an official memo that mentioned nothing about cancer or prostate problems. Accordingly, he likely made or filed a false report or record in the practice of a health occupation and/or willfully made a misrepresentation in treatment.

Collectively, it appears Dr. O'Connor's behavior in the treatment and reporting of President Biden's health was unprofessional and had a deleterious impact on the public's impression of the profession of medicine. For the practice of medicine in the District of Columbia to maintain a positive image, the public must trust that there is accountability for either willfully avoiding a diagnosis or misrepresenting the status of the President's Health. Accordingly, the Board of Medicine should investigate and, if substantiated, impose discipline upon the license of Dr. Kevin O'Connor.

Sincerely,

Michael Chamberlain
Director
Protect the Public's Trust

[14] Other records indicate that President Biden was being examined by doctors on an ongoing basis, not just once a year. See, e.g., The White House-Physician to the President, "Memorandum for Karine Jean-Pierre Assistant to the President and White House Press Secretary," July 8, 2024, https://d3i6fh83elv35t.cloudfront.net/static/2024/07/letter7824.pdf.