American Diabetes Association®

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November 6, 2026

To the American Diabetes Association Board of Directors and Executive Leadership:

Please accept this letter as formal notice of my resignation as Vice President of Publications for the American Diabetes Association (ADA), effective November 30, 2026.

This decision comes after considerable reflection and with profound disappointment in ADA's handling of the events of June 5 in New Orleans, its subsequent responses to and justifications for those events, and its continued failure to articulate a credible path toward resolving the resulting crisis of confidence within the diabetes research community.

Five months after the incident, ADA has yet to meaningfully address many of the concerns raised by the more than 1,200 individuals who have endorsed the boycott. These concerns extend well beyond the events of June 5 and reflect longstanding questions about ADA's governance, transparency, accountability, and commitment to the scientific and medical communities it represents.

I share many of these concerns, including the lack of public accessibility to ADA's governing bylaws; the extent to which the scientific, medical, and research communities are represented in ADA's governance and strategic decision-making; the accountability of ADA leadership; and the need to unequivocally protect the editorial independence of ADA's scientific journals and other peer-reviewed programs.

My immediate decision to resign, however, stems from ADA leadership's determination to appoint an interim editorial team for *Diabetes Care*, despite my repeated and strongly expressed objections. Throughout my nearly three decades in scientific and medical publishing, I have worked to uphold the principles of editorial independence, scientific integrity, transparency, and accountability. Based on that experience, I believe the proposed interim editorial arrangement presents serious ethical, operational, and reputational risks.

Among my concerns is the appointment of individuals to perform essential editorial functions without an established Editor-in-Chief who assumes ultimate responsibility and accountability for the journal's editorial governance and decision-making. In addition, the absence of a formal process to evaluate the proposed interim editors' suitability for handling the breadth and complexity of research submitted to *Diabetes Care*, including appropriate consideration of their editorial experience, subject matter expertise, and potential conflicts of interest, is equally problematic.

I do not question the good intentions or professional accomplishments of those who have volunteered to assist the journal during this difficult period. Indeed, I am concerned that these individuals are being placed in an untenable position, one in which their ability to succeed will be severely constrained by circumstances beyond their control, potentially placing their own professional reputations at risk.

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Moreover, I do not believe this approach will restore the confidence of authors, reviewers, and the broader scientific community. To be clear, I fear it will further undermine the credibility, integrity, and international reputation of *Diabetes Care*, a journal whose standing has been built over decades through the contributions of dedicated editors, reviewers, authors, and ADA publications staff.

I have exhausted every avenue available to me to help resolve the editorial boycott while protecting the journal's integrity, but I cannot, in good conscience, endorse or assume responsibility for an approach that I believe will compound the very problems it is intended to solve.

ADA staff should not continually be placed in the position of having to protect the credibility and integrity of the Association's peer-reviewed publications from decisions made by the Association's own leadership. Yet, that is increasingly the position in which we find ourselves.

For these reasons, I can no longer continue in my role as Vice President of Publications. I also intend to add my name to those calling for meaningful reform through the ongoing boycott.

I remain deeply proud of what our publications team has accomplished and grateful for the extraordinary editors, researchers, reviewers, and colleagues with whom I have had the privilege of working. Their commitment to scientific excellence and editorial integrity has made ADA's journals the most respected publications in diabetes treatment and research. They deserve leadership, governance, and representation that honor and protect those and many other accomplishments.

My resignation is not a rejection of ADA's mission. It is an affirmation of the principles that have guided my work throughout my career and that I believe are essential to the Association's future.

Sincerely,



Christian S. Kohler
Vice President, Publications
American Diabetes Association