



Paul W. Abramowitz, Pharm.D., Sc.D. (Hon), FASHP
Chief Executive Officer

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
Office of the President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20202

RE: Nomination of Dr. Vivian Bradley Johnson to COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force

Dear President Biden,

ASHP represents pharmacists who serve as patient care providers in acute and ambulatory settings. The organization's nearly 58,000 members include pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians. For 78 years, ASHP has been at the forefront of efforts to improve medication use and enhance patient safety. This dedication has remained throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency as ASHP continues to serve a leading role in providing additional resources on best practices for addressing COVID-19 and COVID-19 vaccine safety and roll out.

ASHP would like to thank you and your administration for the important steps you have taken to help combat the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. ASHP is pleased to see that these steps included the authorization of the Executive Order on Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery that establishes a COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force. **As you move forward with appointments, we kindly request that Dr. Vivian Bradley Johnson, Pharm.D., M.B.A., FASHP of Carrollton, Texas be considered for appointment to your COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force.** Dr. Vivian Bradley Johnson is the Senior Vice President of Clinical Services for Parkland Health and Hospital System, overseeing a \$300 million budget and 1,500 employees engaged in the fight against COVID-19 across Pharmacy, Radiology, Respiratory, Clinical Dietary, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and Laboratory Services, and a leader in engaging communities of color around COVID-19 vaccination and testing.

Parkland Health and Hospital System, located in Dallas, Texas, is one of the largest public hospital systems in the United States, and averages over one million patient visits annually and employs more than 10,000 individuals. Every day approximately 819 adult inpatient and neonatal intensive care unit patients will be cared for at Parkland, and nearly 30,000 prescriptions filled. In 2019, Parkland provided approximately \$947.1 million in uncompensated care to its patients.

With Dr. Bradley Johnson's leadership, Parkland has partnered with Dallas County Health and Human Services to respond to the Community Health Needs Assessment to identify the geographic areas and populations that experience the most significant health disparities in Dallas County. This also helped to establish strategies for addressing access to care, understanding the health needs of special populations, and the need for collaborative action to collectively impact socio-economic factors that contribute to poor health outcomes among at-risk populations. Parkland Health and Hospital System has also risen to the challenge of addressing COVID-19 by

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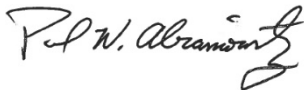
providing critical care to severely ill COVID-19 patients, providing access to COVID-19 vaccination and testing, setting up a COVID-19 follow-up clinic for patients with additional needs, and creating a toolkit for schools in Dallas County to utilize to re-open safely. Parkland Health and Hospital System also serves as one of Dallas County's five vaccine hubs as the county begins to expand vaccination efforts to include those over 65 years old and individuals with preexisting conditions.

Dr. Vivian Bradley Johnson is a clinical pharmacist by training and has dedicated the past 35 years of her career to providing healthcare services to underserved individuals in Dallas County. It is through this experience that she has established a deep understanding of medication use and supply chain challenges impacting our nation's COVID-19 response. Under Dr. Johnson's leadership, many clinical pharmacy programs have been developed and are now recognized as best practices at the local, state, and national level. This leadership has continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as she serves as a member of the Parkland Hospital COVID-19 Response Command Center Team. Dr. Johnson provides oversight of the COVID-19 vaccine procurement and distribution to Parkland Health and Hospital System employees and the Dallas County Hospital District patients and communities.

Dr. Vivian Bradley Johnson has personally served as an ambassador to her community and Parkland's patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has been actively engaged in outreach to the Dallas community focused on expanding community members' understanding of COVID-19 vaccination with a focus on improving the acceptance of the vaccine in Black and Brown communities. She partnered with Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, the Dallas Mavericks, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and local churches to educate on how to access vaccinations and support the small business community's response to COVID-19. Additionally, at the request of Congressman Collin Allred and Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, she also participated as a panelist in town hall discussions to educate their constituents about COVID-19 and opportunities for vaccination.

Dr. Vivian Bradley Johnson has spent her career dedicated to ensuring quality health care for all, specifically assisting those who are underserved in Dallas County. She is a patient focused, dedicated individual with a wealth of skills, knowledge, and experience that would make her an invaluable asset to your COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force. We thank you for your consideration to appoint Dr. Vivian Bradley Johnson to be a member of this taskforce.

Sincerely,



Paul W. Abramowitz