



DEAR ADVOCATE ARMY

The use of public, private-partnerships has expanded into the healthcare system; subsequently creating a need for oversight to ensure the work is conducted ethically, while maintaining transparency. These 3 aspects, (oversight, transparency and ethics), are the focus of our work at CIAAG. It is imperative that as we move forward, systems are put in place to ensure the safe implementation of national policies and the preservation of civil liberties.

Why did this become our focus at CIAAG?

Since founding CIAAG in 2017, I have seen first hand the corrupt practices that are contributing to patients in pain not having their voices taken seriously. Oftentimes, they are outright dismissed.

By observing the conduct of the non-profit organizations, academia, and clinical researchers, we have been able to ascertain (first hand), the impact corporate malfeasance is having on any grassroots advocacy movement from being effective.

Many mainstream organizations have used their platforms to spread dangerous misinformation and outright lies to the patient community to further their corporate agenda.

Despite working directly on the national strategy and being appointed to numerous federal committees, non-profit leaders have spent years actively denying the very existence of the National Pain Strategy, Federal Pain Strategy, and the National Prevention Strategy.

In fact, CIAAG submitted a FOIA request to HHS for the National Prevention Strategy's annual reports to Congress. After a year of back and forth, HHS advised us that there is "no documentation of any kind" in relation to a National Prevention Strategy.

However, after doing additional research, our team was able to find these reports ourselves. These strategies are acting as blueprints for the work that is being conducted nationally. For HHS to deny the reports very existence is quite alarming.

It doesn't stop there. The corporate malfeasance goes much deeper.

Since the founding of CIAAG in 2017, our organization has been the target of slander and coordinated disinformation campaigns perpetrated by a small group of corporate and academic actors.

In attempt to get assistance with this matter, many actions were taken by our board of directors, including, but not limited to:

- Calling local law-enforcement in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island
- Calling state police in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island
- Filing numerous reports with the Massachusetts Attorney General's office
- Speaking with members of Congress and Senate, sharing concerns of retaliation
- Filing reports with the FBI
- Filing reports with ICJ
- Filing reports with DOJ
- Filing report to the Massachusetts ACLU
- Filed restraining orders 4 times (in 2 separate jurisdictions). The judges permitted the defendant to skip, submit verifiable lies in a letter format, and dismissed all testimony provided by our organization and numerous witnesses as "hearsay" and in actuality, defended the absentee defendant multiple times. The conduct at these hearings was highly unusual. My rights to due process of law were violated.

Despite federal and state laws clearly and openly being violated, I have been blocked at every turn. Local and state law enforcement outright denied my right to file a police report. In 2018, I received a threat to have "my throat cut" if I didn't get out of their way". I attempted to file a police report. The officer dispatched to my home refused to take the report. The officer was acting so aggressively that I had to ask him to leave my home.

The FBI did open an investigation; yet despite ample evidence (and the perpetrator openly engaging in the acts being reported), the agent closed the case. Since that time, I have sought a copy of my complaint to (which I was denied access to) by the FBI using FOIA disclaimers. One notable disclaimer caught our attention:

"28 C.F.R. 16.5 (e)(1)(iv): A matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exists possible questions about the government's integrity which affects public confidence"

Why would confirming the mere existence of a report filed at the FBI trigger this type of response? This raises questions.

These acts on behalf corporations, funded by federal tax dollars via grants, continue to use their platforms to spread disinformation about national healthcare policy issues, my organization, my character (personally and professionally), and the character (personally and professionally) of CIAAG's Vice President, Shasta Rayne Harner.

We were garnering too much negative backlash for the type of work we were doing. Or were we?

Recently, we opted to refile a number of complaints due to the continued cyber-harassment, disinformation, and coordinated campaigning taking place amongst corporate actors and their followers.

For years, we have sought assistance from law enforcement and for years we have been meet with gaslighting and outright violations of our due process of law. We could not make sense as to why this was happening. Why these organizations targeted us and why law enforcement refused to assist at all stops; including the denying of our right to file police reports on the incidents.

As a result of our inability to get the aide of law enforcement, we were forced to do our own research into what may be the root cause of the ongoing abuse and the failure of law enforcement to honor our rights as citizens.

What we discovered is shocking and explains why law enforcement has been unwilling to assist despite ample evidence of serious crimes being perpetrated against not only us personally, but also our organization and the thousands of innocent patients online seeking help.

It was well known, the leader of this organization touted themselves as having ties to law enforcement; however, it appears their connections to law enforcement run much deeper than we could have ever imagined. This could very well be the root cause as to why (despite everything that has taken place), we continue to be unable get any assistance.

Upon searching corporate filing documents, we discovered shocking information regarding the founding board members of this organization. Amongst them are an individual that was working for the Attorney Generals office, within the Criminal Prosecutors office in Rhode Island.

Could this be why the defendant was granted the ability to skip court hearings, submit false letters to the courts, and was enabled to maintain a continual targeted slander and harassment campaign against myself that was launched and on-going for over 5 years at this point?



Why is this being sent out to our members?

This matter goes far beyond a simple annoyance on social media. This issue shows the systemic problems we are combating within the advocacy arena and the corporate misconduct taking place that is contributing to patients' inability to get the help they need.

We must have accountability for government agency employees and contractors who are creating organizations and then using said organizations to spread disinformation and target citizen activists.

While we started as a pain advocacy group, our organization has grown and expanded greatly since that time. Through our experiences and observations, we have identified the systemic issues of corruption that are directly harming civil society organizations and the citizens they represent. As such, our organizational mission has changed and is focused on addressing this corruption and in doing so, restoring patient rights and proper access to medications for the management of pain, illness, and disease.

We are asking the Attorney Generals Maura Healy and Peter Neronha and other law enforcement agencies to take immediate action to restore citizen confidence and trust in our government agencies. We also ask for those who did this to be held accountable for the criminal acts that have been taking place against our organization and the thousands of innocent people online.

Remember, Together We Are #CIAAGStrong!!!

Thank you,

Lauren L. Deluca, CPCU, API, AINS and Shasta Rayne Harner
Executive Director and Vice President
Chronic Illness Advocacy & Awareness Group dba CIAAG

