



# State of Connecticut

SENATOR STEPHEN HARDING

**SENATE MINORITY LEADER**

30<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

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March 2, 2026

John Driscoll  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
University of Connecticut Health Center  
UConn Health  
PO Box 4035  
Farmington, CT 06034

Daniel Toscano  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
Board of Trustees c/o University of Connecticut  
352 Mansfield Road, Unit 1048  
Storrs, CT 06269-1048

Dear Mr. Driscoll and Mr. Toscano:

I am writing in my capacity as Republican Leader of the Senate and out of my commitment to sound governance, fiscal accountability, and the responsible stewardship of public resources. Yesterday, as UConn Health took control of Waterbury Hospital, it did so under the shadow of recent reporting that raises profound concerns about UConn Health's CEO and, by extension, the CFO's leadership. These concerns demand immediate and transparent answers.

Given the magnitude of these matters, I am calling for a public meeting at which UConn Health CEO Andrew Agwunobi and CFO Jeffrey Geoghegan will be expected to answer questions fully, directly, and on the record before the community whose trust and tax dollars are at stake.

As recently reported, Dr. Agwunobi's involvement with WellCare raises troubling questions about oversight, conflicts of interest, and the public's confidence in leadership. Dr. Agwunobi cashed in vested stock options from WellCare worth roughly \$1 million after only months on the board. The following month, he became the state regulator responsible for overseeing WellCare's Medicaid practices in the state. Shortly thereafter, the FBI raided WellCare. Its former CEO and multiple executives were convicted by a federal jury of healthcare fraud and sentenced to prison for orchestrating a scheme to defraud the state's Medicaid program. It has been publicly reported that WellCare was able to perpetrate this scheme to defraud taxpayers because of its close relationship with regulators. The company ultimately paid roughly \$135 million in fines and penalties following investigations by the state's attorney general and the FBI.

Against this backdrop, the public deserves clear answers regarding Dr. Agwunobi's involvement with WellCare, including his oversight both as a board member and later as a state regulator, as well as his explanation for the apparent conflict of receiving a million dollars from the company before assuming regulatory authority over it. Additionally, was Dr. Agwunobi's relationship with WellCare disclosed to Governor Lamont upon his rehiring?

It has also been reported that Dr. Agwunobi was sued by a former UConn Health employee for retaliation after she was terminated following her investigation of allegations of sexual harassment against a UConn Health faculty member and an employee who made fraudulent overtime claims. The public deserves to know whether any settlement funds from this wrongful termination lawsuit were paid directly or indirectly using taxpayer dollars

or public institutional funds. Was Governor Lamont made aware of this lawsuit and any potential settlement when Dr. Agwunobi was rehired as CEO in May 2024?

Additionally, during his tenure leading Grady Health System, federal findings identified serious regulatory violations at the hospital that posed significant risks to patient safety. Reports also indicate that Dr. Agwunobi claimed to eliminate \$20 million in hospital debt; however, the hospital was required to repay approximately \$20 million for Medicaid overpayments during his tenure. Further, within a year of his departure, despite public statements that the institution was financially sound, the hospital reportedly faced severe financial instability. This history raises serious questions about his financial responsibility, executive judgment, and ability to manage a complex healthcare institution, especially in the context of UConn Health's perpetual annual deficits.

I am similarly concerned about CFO Jeffrey Geoghegan's track record. In his 24 years as CFO, UConn Health has consistently operated at a deficit. Recent reports have also indicated a breakdown in governance and financial oversight at the highest levels of leadership, including an incident in which a deceased professor continued to receive paychecks for nearly a year. UConn Health has repeatedly asserted that it can improve the quality of care at Waterbury Hospital; however, reports have shown that UConn Health previously provided substandard care to inmates, maintained incomplete records, and ultimately had to return healthcare operations to the Department of Correction.

Given this history, serious questions must be answered about whether UConn Health currently has the right CEO and CFO in place. The public deserves a full and transparent accounting before any further decisions affecting taxpayer-funded hospitals are made. I look forward to scheduling a public meeting with UConn Health leadership at the earliest possible opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Harding", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephen Harding  
Senate Minority Leader – 30<sup>th</sup> District