June 10, 2020

**AAP-OC Chapter Statement on the Resignation of OC Public Health Officer, Nichole Quick, M.D.**

The American Academy of Pediatrics-Orange County Chapter (AAP-OC) and its members speak out in support of Dr. Nichole Quick, the Orange County Public Health Officer, and we are saddened by the circumstances prompting her resignation. This is a great loss for our community.

We thank Dr. Quick for her commitment to preserve public health and national security for the 3.1 million people who live in Orange County. Dr. Quick’s policy recommendations regarding COVID-19 are supported by the CDC, countless public health officers throughout the country, and the best science available.

Our elected officials have a responsibility to support our public health professionals working tirelessly to keep our children and families safe, and we call upon the Orange County Board of Supervisors to adequately address the unacceptable community threats and harassment. No public official should have to resign in fear for their personal safety. "There is no place for bullying when it comes to public policy, and we condemn the threats that targeted Dr. Quick and her family," says past President of the American Academy of Pediatrics Dr. Colleen Kraft, MD, MBA.

The AAP-OC encourages open and respectful dialogue as we work together to find common sense ways to keep everyone healthy while attempting to open up our country. Dr. Katherine Williamson, MD, President of the American Academy of Pediatrics-Orange County chapter states "We are better than this. Let’s be the model we want for our children by working together to keep our community safe."

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