



Armenian Bar Association

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In loving memory (2014)

Via Email and US Mail

October 1, 2024

Governor Kathy Hochul
New York State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Re: Mayor Eric Adams

Dear Governor Hochul:

We are writing to express our deep concern regarding the serious allegations outlined in the recent indictment against New York City Mayor Eric Adams. The fifty-seven-page indictment reveals a troubling pattern of bribery, corruption, and illicit influence by the Turkish government, which has sought to manipulate the Mayor's office in ways that are both alarming and unacceptable.

According to the indictment, a Turkish official reached out to a staff member of Mayor Adams on April 21, 2022, requesting assurances that the Mayor would refrain from making any public statement about the Armenian Genocide as Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day approached. The staff member confirmed that the Mayor would comply, resulting in a failure to acknowledge this critical historical atrocity. This incident raises profound questions about the integrity and independence of the Mayor and his office.

It is unacceptable for any public official to bow to foreign pressure, especially on matters of historical significance and human rights. The Armenian Genocide, a crime committed by the former Turkish government, continues to be denied by its current leadership, which actively seeks to erase this atrocity from our shared history. Recognition of the Genocide is not merely a matter of historical record; it is an ethical obligation that upholds the values of justice and human rights that New Yorkers cherish.

We call for Mayor Eric Adams to resign immediately. His actions undermine the trust of the citizens he represents and compromise New York City's moral standing on global human rights issues. We request that you, as Governor of New York, seriously consider exercising your ability to hasten the removal, should Mr. Adams not step down voluntarily and expeditiously. Your leadership has been, and continues to be, crucial in fostering accountability and integrity among public officials.

We join you in demanding transparency and ethical conduct in our leadership. The Armenian Genocide deserves recognition, and any attempt to silence this acknowledgment is both a betrayal of American values and an affront to the memory of the one-and-a-half million Armenian victims.

Governor Kathy Hochul
New York State Capitol
October 1, 2024
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Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. We hope to see swift action that reflects the commitment to justice and integrity that New Yorkers expect from their leaders.

Sincerely,

ARMENIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Lucy Varpetian', is positioned below the printed name.

Lucy Varpetian
Chairwoman