



Sudanese American Medical Association

Internal Policy on Public Statements

Introduction:

IRS Regulations: Charitable nonprofits and foundations may not “*participate in or intervene in (including publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for political office.*” 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3). This prohibition applies to any and all candidates for federal, state and even local elections. See IRS Regulations, [Section 1.501\(c\)\(3\)-1\(3\) \(iii\)](#).

The Sudanese American Medical Association (SAMA) is committed to open and honest communication regarding the release of public statements. SAMA will protect the privacy of personal information of beneficiaries, members, staff, volunteers, executive committee and board members.

In the event of humanitarian crisis, medical emergency, or urgent public affair, a decision to issue a public statement of organizational position will be undertaken **only by the Board of Trustees (BOT) and after approval in an official BOT meeting**. SAMA Board of trustees (BOT) and officers are prohibited from issuing any public statement or communication on behalf of SAMA individually.

Any public statement issued by SAMA will represent the interests of its members and the public in large in both the US and Sudan and should be appropriate to the mission of SAMA and in accordance to SAMA core values.

Procedure and communication plan

BOT will meet to discuss issuance of a public statement upon request of at least 2 members of the BOT. The BOT will decide by majority of votes whether a public statement is mandated after discussion of the current event and potential risks to the organization. If a public statement is deemed warranted, the BOT will identify and assign writer/s to draft the statement. The statement should be reviewed and approved by the majority of the BOT before distribution through official SAMA media outlets.

Ezzeldin Saleh
BOT Chairperson

May 14, 2019

Ahmed Abdelrahman
President

May 13, 2019