



Hyatt Hotels Corporation
150 North Riverside Plaza,
8th Floor Chicago, Illinois 60606

February 11, 2023

To: Hyatt Corporate Headquarters and Global Inclusion & Diversity Council

This letter is to inform you that the Colorado Society of School Psychologists (CSSP) condemns the racially motivated event that took place during the week-long annual convention of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The totally unacceptable and harmful incident occurred Wednesday, February 8th 2023 at the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center and directly affected Dr. Celeste Malone, her friends, colleagues, and family, and by extension the Black community. The actions of hotel security are antithetical to NASP's and CSSP's values, commitment to working to end racism and discrimination, and being a welcoming, safe space for all marginalized people. The actions on February 8th also contradict Hyatt's commitment to a "World of Care" and vision to advance initiatives related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. As indicated on your website, "We are committed to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion and, when we have not lived up to our own expectations, we hold ourselves urgently accountable to do better".

Dr. Malone, along with other Black leaders in school psychology are doing amazing work, as evidenced by so much of what made this convention exciting and meaningful. *The CSSP are outraged and stand in solidarity with Dr. Malone and the Black community.* There is no justification for this incident, and we will hold the Hyatt accountable. We support the following four NASP requests and ask that the Hyatt to:

1. Give a public and genuine apology to Dr. Malone and her guests
2. Refund all room charges and fees to Dr. Malone's invited guests to the party
3. Provide direct compensation to Dr. Malone
4. Give substantive donations to the NASP Minority Scholarship Program, Howard University (to be determined by Dr. Malone), and the Black School Psychology Network

We are outraged that this happened in any convention space, but more importantly, a convention space in our beloved city, which is supposed to be a place of safety, celebration, and joy. The behavior of the security guards at your hotel on February 8th serves as a painful reminder that acts of racism and inequality still permeate our society. The CSSP stands against all forms of racism and inequality and the mission of our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEIC) is to advocate for school communities and systems that promote equity and fairness through social justice and culturally-responsive professional practices that honor the rights, dignity, and



worth of disempowered populations. This painful example of racism in our state demonstrates the need for continued efforts in social justice in order to reduce acts of racism and inequity.

Sincerely,

Brittany Greiert, Ph.D., NCSP - President, CSSP

Libby Malone, Ed.S., NCSP - President Elect, CSSP

Rasheeda Ouedraogo, Ed.S., NCSP - Chair, DEIC, CSSP

Ron Glazier, Ph.D., NCSP - Past President, CSSP