



## **Muslim American Elected Officials Endorse Joe Biden for President**

So much hangs in the balance: global stability, world health, climate action, and the very foundations of our democracy. It's not too much of a stretch to state that the 2020 election is the most important election of our lifetime. Our current President thrives on demagoguery, xenophobia, and sowing division and discord within the country. A man who began his campaign by equating Mexicans with rapists, he has continued by demonizing Asian communities, Muslims, immigrants, and our free press. He has mocked women, our indigenous communities, and the disabled. In our moment of crisis, when we have sought for national leadership and a vision to unite us, he has instead failed us by politicizing a pandemic and by refusing to acknowledge the deep scars of systemic racism.

President Trump's policies and actions – the Muslim Ban, tax breaks for the super rich, pulling out of the Paris Climate deal, defunding the Affordable Care Act, disbanding the federal pandemic response office, pulling out of the Iran nuclear deal, appointing Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, appointing a senior leadership that supports anti-immigrant and racist policies throughout his administration, disregarding the calls for justice for Black lives, and so on – make him a deep threat to our future as a nation. As we have seen through our painful health crisis, tens of thousands of lives have been lost that could have been saved if we had a President who cared about us more than he cares about a stock market that impacts his own wallet. We have the chance to end this nightmare. We have just under four months to elect Joe Biden, and we must do everything in our power to make it happen. As Muslim Americans and as elected officials, we join Emgage PAC in endorsing Joe Biden for President of the United States.

Our number one goal is to remove Donald Trump from office and to replace him with someone who can begin to heal our nation. With a qualified and capable leader in the White House, someone who understands what everyday people are going through, we have the opportunity to make meaningful change that supports all communities in America. Further, many of us know Joe Biden. His relationships in Congress and deep experience made many of the landmark laws and policies under President Obama possible, from the Affordable Care Act and the Recovery Act to the Clean Power Plan and DACA. In his 45-year career in government service, Joe Biden has grown alongside the country he deeply loves. He knows that we are ready to embrace the values of a future that includes diverse and new voices. A Biden administration will move the nation forward on many of the issues we care about: racial justice, affordable healthcare, closing the income inequality gap, believing in science and addressing climate change, overhauling our broken immigration system, restoring American leadership globally on issues of human rights, and implementing a strong national response to end the COVID-19 pandemic.

Joe Biden also knows and respects the hard work and values of the Muslim-American community. As Senator he addressed the Islamic Society of Delaware in Wilmington, saying, "To misdirect hate, because of someone's religion or appearance or accent, not only twists our national identity, it detracts from it." Joe Biden knows what it means to be American. He is standing with all minority groups in the struggle for racial justice. He is standing for the everyday person, trying to give us all a chance, while also paving the road for diverse and representative talent from around the country into Washington, DC, including Muslims. For more on Joe Biden's agenda for Muslim Americans, visit [www.joebiden.com/muslimamerica](http://www.joebiden.com/muslimamerica). In our many years of service, we have never seen a more robust, positive plan for Muslims from a presidential nominee of a major political party. Joe Biden has the experience, values, and leadership

qualities to unite our country and bring solutions to our greatest challenges. We are signing this letter to set a new course for our country and committing to organizing our communities to elect Joe Biden.

With Joe Biden, we will have a seat at the table and will address and heal the deep wounds that fracture our country. We ask you to vote on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Be prepared. You may need to plan for a mail-in or absentee vote well in advance. Make sure you are registered. Study your local down ballot candidates as well. This is a moment in which America needs Muslims to help resurrect our democracy. As Muslim Americans and as elected officials, we are counting on you. Give us a chance to make a difference by replacing our greatest obstacle with a true partner who will restore honor to the Presidency.

Sincerely,

Ilhan Omar, U.S. Representative (MN)

Andre Carson, U.S. Congressman (IN)

Keith Ellison, Attorney General (MN)

Brian Mosallem, Michigan State University Board Trustee (MI)

Ghazala Hashmi, State Senator (VA)

Sharif Street, State Senator (PA)

Abdullah Hammoud, State Representative (MI)

Basheer Jones, Cleveland City Councilman (OH)

Bushra Amiwala, Cook County Board Commissioner (IL)

Pious Ali, Portland City Councilor At-Large (ME)

Nadia Berry, Crestwood School Board Member (MI)

Fadel Al-Marsoumi, Hamtramck City Council Member (MI)

Eric Sabree, Wayne County Treasurer (MI)

Dave Abdallah, Dearborn City Council Member (MI)

Mike Sareini, Dearborn City Council Member (MI)

Sam Baydoun, Wayne County Commissioner (MI)

Susan Dabaja, Dearborn Council President (MI)

Sadaf Jaffer, Montgomery Township Mayor (NJ)

Mussab Ali, Jersey City Board of Education (NJ)

Afsheen Shamsi, Princeton Municipal Committee Member (NJ)

Mustafa Al-M. Brent, East Orange Fifth Ward Councilman (NJ)

Md. Hossain Morshed, Atlantic City Fourth Ward Councilman (NJ)

Hazim Yassin, Red Bank Councilman (NJ)

Farook Hussain, Atlantic City Board of Education (NJ)

Ahmed Shehata, Linden Board of Education (NJ)

Mohammed T. Khairullah, Mayor of Prospect Park (NJ)

Alfred Mohammed, Linden 4th Ward Councilman (NJ)

Salim Patel, Passaic Councilman-at-Large (NJ)

Kaleem Shabazz, Atlantic City Third-Ward Councilman (NJ)

Robert Jackson, State Senator (NY)

Charles Fall, State Assembly Delegate (NY)

Mohammed Al-Hamdani, Dayton School Board President (OH)

Shammas Malik, Akron City Council Member (OH)

Jason Dawkins, House Representative (PA)

Curtis Jones Jr., District 4 Councilman (PA)

Salman Bhojani, Euless City Councilman (TX)

Sean Hassan, Austin Community College Board Trustee (TX)

Sam Rasoul, General Assembly Delegate (VA)

Mo Seifeldin, City of Alexandria Councilman (VA)

Ibraheem Samirah, House of Delegates Representative (VA)

Lisa Zargarpur, Prince Williams County School Board Member (VA)

Syed Abbas, Madison Common Councilman (WI)

Minza Karim, Middleton-Cross Plains Board of Education Member (WI)

Samba Baldeh, Madison Alderman (WI)