

September 14, 2020

ASBMB denounces statements made by Assistant Secretary Michael Caputo

The following is a statement from Benjamin Corb, public affairs director for the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology:

“Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Michael Caputo should immediately rescind the baseless accusations he made [against federal scientists](#) this weekend in a Facebook video.

It is inexcusable for a top government official to claim that government scientists are allowing the COVID-19 pandemic to continue in an effort to hurt President Donald Trump’s reelection efforts.

For far too long, the Trump administration has attacked scientists, doctors and public health officials, eroding the public’s trust in the very institutions that have been working tirelessly for months to protect the American people and put an end to the pandemic.

Science, much like the SARS-COV-2 virus, doesn’t care who is in the White House. It doesn’t target red states or blue states, and it isn’t impacted by news or election cycles. Science is not partisan; science is based on facts, logic and reproducibility.

If the Trump administration had devoted time and energy to attacking the virus instead of attacking scientists, thousands of Americans might not have lost their lives this year.”