



NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG DEPENDENCE, INC.

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April 27, 2009

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Dear Dr. Johnson;

I am writing as a follow-up to the April 27, 2009 meeting of the NCADD Medical-Scientific Committee and NCADD Board of Directors, regarding the April 28, 2009 meeting of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Scientific Medical Review Board (SMRB).

As we understand it, one of the items on the agenda is a discussion about the possible merger of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

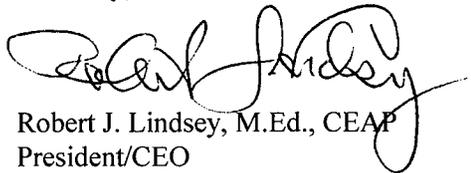
Regarding the proposed merger of NIAAA and NIDA, NCADD is concerned about the viability of support for alcohol research and needs more information before taking a position. NCADD must be convinced that any merger would enhance resources to finance the missions of both institutes.

In addition, without a Secretary of DHHS, a Director of NIAAA and a Director of NIH, several key leadership positions that are needed and necessary to effectively guide these discussions are critically absent.

We look forward to hearing an update on the SMRB meeting discussion as well as working together to expand the impact of NIAAA and NIDA.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely;



Robert J. Lindsey, M.Ed., CEAP
President/CEO