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CAPITAL REVIEW

September 28, 2026

Dear Chairman Goodyear:

As you are aware, on August 20, 2026, tragedy struck the Mayich family. Matthew Mayich, a 21-year-old sophomore and hockey player at Arizona State University, collapsed during a morning team workout at Sun Angel Stadium and remains hospitalized.¹

The *Arizona Republic* has reported extensively on that day's events and the circumstances surrounding them, publishing more than a dozen stories. ASU subsequently conducted an internal review that resulted in an "Initial Report" on September 21.² We understand that ASU's administrative review and ASU Police investigation remain ongoing.³

ASU's own report acknowledges that important procedures were not followed before the workout, including that the hockey staff "did not submit a plan of training activities for review by ASU's strength and conditioning coaches prior to the event."⁴ The report also confirms that all three ASU hockey coaches and the team's assigned athletic trainer were present.⁵

Mr. Rund recommends convening a "blue-ribbon" panel to examine best practices going forward.⁶ That may be worthwhile, but it does not answer the more immediate question: **Were ASU's existing policies followed on August 20, and, if not, who was responsible for those**

¹ Arizona State University, *Initial Report on the Review of August 20 Events Related to ASU Hockey Player Matthew Mayich* (Sept. 21, 2026). ASU reports that Mayich collapsed shortly before 8:30 a.m. during a hockey team workout at Sun Angel Stadium.

² *Id.* ASU expressly titles the document an "Initial Report."

³ *Id.* Rund states that the university's review would continue and that ASU Police was separately investigating the incident, with its completed report to be provided to the Maricopa County Attorney's Office.

⁴ *Id.* ASU states that hockey staff requested permission for Timothy Ziesel to speak to the team but did not submit a plan of training activities for review by ASU strength-and-conditioning coaches.

⁵ *Id.* ASU reports that all three hockey coaches and the team's assigned athletic trainer were present.

⁶ *Id.* Rund recommends a multidisciplinary or "blue-ribbon" advisory panel addressing outdoor athletic activities and outside consultants.

failures? Those questions must be answered so that the facts can be established and appropriate accountability can follow.

Today, I received a 26-page letter submitted on behalf of seven current ASU hockey players who state that they were present on August 20. Their attorney represents that he has confirmed their identities and holds their signed attestations.⁷

These players contend that ASU's initial report fails to capture key details of the workout, including its actual duration, players' access to water, and the physical condition of multiple players. They describe players vomiting and struggling physically and allege that Mayich became visibly disoriented well before the final exercise and, at one point, was struggling to remain standing and leaning on a teammate for support.⁸ According to their account, all of this occurred while ASU coaches and athletic personnel were present. The players further state that, to their knowledge, no one involved has been placed on leave, suspended, or disciplined.⁹

Their account of what happened after Mayich collapsed also warrants serious scrutiny. According to the players, Coach Greg Powers characterized Mayich's condition as **“just a little heat stroke”** and **“heat exhaustion”** and said that he had **“seen this a million times.”**¹⁰ If accurately reported, those comments raise serious questions about how the severity of Mayich's condition was perceived by those responsible for overseeing the workout.

Equally troubling, the seven players say they are speaking anonymously because they fear retaliation from coaches who continue to exercise authority over their playing time, scholarships, and roster status.¹¹ No student-athlete should have to weigh his or her athletic future against providing truthful information in an investigation involving the safety of a teammate.

This is no longer simply a question of whether ASU's policies are adequate. It is a question of whether ASU followed its own policies, who was responsible for ensuring compliance, what happened when those safeguards apparently failed, and whether an investigation conducted by the same institution can provide the independence necessary to answer those questions.

An independent investigation should, at minimum, determine **who authorized the August 20 workout and the use of an outside consultant; whether ASU's required approval and vetting procedures were followed; why the workout was not submitted to ASU's strength and conditioning professionals for review; whether ASU's existing heat-safety requirements were followed; why the workout allegedly continued after players exhibited signs of**

⁷ Letter from seven members of the 2026–27 ASU men's hockey team to President Michael Crow (Sept. 28, 2026), at 1–2. Counsel states that he confirmed the players' identities and holds their signed attestations.

⁸ *Id.* at 4, 7–8. The players allege a workout lasting more than 75 minutes, limited access to water, vomiting and other signs of distress, and that Mayich was struggling to remain standing before the final exercise.

⁹ *Id.* at 2.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 9.

¹¹ *Id.* at 2. The players state that they fear retaliation because the coaches continue to control playing time, scholarship levels and roster status.

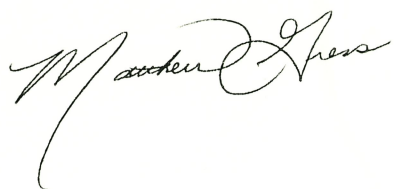
physical distress; and why the final exercise proceeded under the supervision of ASU personnel after the outside consultant had left.¹²

We therefore urge the Arizona Board of Regents to exercise its oversight authority and retain a qualified, independent investigator with no reporting relationship to ASU to conduct a comprehensive investigation of the August 20 incident. The investigation should include protections against retaliation for all student-athletes and witnesses, preservation of relevant records and communications, and public findings sufficient to establish what occurred, whether university policies were followed, and what accountability or corrective action is warranted.

Matthew Mayich, his family, his teammates, and the public deserve a full and independent accounting of what happened.

Please indicate the Board of Regents' plans to us on this matter no later than October 9.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matt Gress".

Matt Gress

State Representative, District 4

Chairman, House Education Committee

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hildy Angius".

Hildy Angius

State Senator, District 30

Chairman, Senate Education Committee

Cc: Dr. Michael Crow, President, Arizona State University

¹² *Id.* at 22–25. The players' submission identifies questions concerning approval of the workout, consultant vetting, strength-and-conditioning oversight, heat measurement, emergency equipment, medical response and staff supervision.