



Written by [Rebecca Terrell](#) on November 4, 2025

Former HHS Official Defends Record Against MAHA Backlash

A former top advisor to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is defending himself against allegations of dishonesty and professional misconduct levied by both the Left and members of the medical freedom community.

HHS abruptly fired former senior biosecurity adviser Steven J. Hatfill in late October. Since May he worked at the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), an agency division that coordinates national reaction to pandemics.

In an [interview](#) with *The New York Times*, he claimed that his firing is part of HHS Chief of Staff Matt Buckham's "coup to overthrow" his boss, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.



AP Images

Steven J. Hatfill speaking to reporters in 2002

Haviland Defends

Retired U.S. Air Force Major Thomas F. Haviland rallied to Hatfill's defense. (Haviland lost his job as a military contractor in 2021 for refusing the Covid jab and has since [exposed](#) dangerous blood clotting issues in patients who received it.)

In an email to his press contacts, he forwarded Nicolas Hulscher's [Focal Points](#) interview with Hatfill and urged:

Everyone addressed on this email needs to watch the below interview. Then, those of you with direct access to RFK Jr. need to contact him and request:

- Dr. Steve Hatfill be restored to his position at HHS.
- Mr. Gray Delany be restored to his position at HHS.
- Matt Buckham be FIRED from his position as HHS Chief of Staff.
- Stephanie Spear be FIRED from her position as HHS Principal Deputy Chief of Staff / Senior Counselor to the Secretary.

The first two names are heroes. The last two names are traitorous rats that are obviously bought off by Big Pharma. The supportive MAHA base has rightfully lost their patience. MAHA WILL FAIL unless corrective action is taken soon [to] score some tangible wins. Taking these dangerous and deadly Covid "vaccines" off the market entirely would be a good start.

Nass Attacks

Dr. Meryl Nass sent a strongly worded challenge to Haviland's defense of Hatfill. [Nass](#) is affiliated with



Written by [Rebecca Terrell](#) on November 4, 2025

RFK, Jr.'s Children's Health Defense, and the Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine [suspended](#) her medical license for spreading "misinformation" about COVID-19. Her email reads (emphasis in original):

You do not know what you are taking about, Maj. Haviland. Both employees were fired for cause. And now the sour grapes are being squeezed as they create a narrative about what happened and link it to a coup against RFK.

One of the Causes Hatfill was fired for was lying. And forgery. He forged a PhD diploma.

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2002/10/09/former-army-scientist-forged-phd-certificate-school-says/>

He was never a member of the Royal Society of Physicians. He has never had a medical license in the United States — how could he be a "Chief Medical Officer"? Did he ever complete a residency? Would you want a liar and forger representing your agency?

This is not the first time young Nick Hulscher gets things very wrong. Check your facts.

Hatfill Responds

Hatfill has written an eight-page rebuttal, delivered via email to Haviland's contacts. He entitled it "An Interesting Letter to America," available [here](#). It begins with a scathing critique of Nass, including her involvement in investigations into an outbreak of anthrax in Rhodesia in 1978. Hatfill also recounts his claim of Nass's earlier accusation that he was responsible for the 2001 "[Amerithrax](#)" bioterrorism attack, when letters containing the anthrax pathogen were mailed through the U.S. Postal Service.

In response to the specific charges in Nass's email, Hatfill delineates:

NASS: You do not know what you are talking about, Maj. Haviland. Both employees were fired for cause.

My answer: Mrs. Nass, you have no clue why the Secretary asked for my resignation. I have still not received a letter of cause. This may have been an independent action by Suzi Wiles influenced by Big Pharma through Matt Buckham. It may have been the decision of Secretary Kennedy influenced by Stephanie Spears, or it could have been through the actions of President Trump himself. It could even as a result [*sic*] of some criminal slander you made to Secretary Kennedy. I have no idea, and neither do you. You are not a part of HHS.

NASS: And now the sour grapes are being squeezed as they create a narrative about what happened and link it to a coup against RFK.

My answer: Mrs. Nass, you are only describing what would be your own emotions over such a situation because that is how your brain is wired. For me, I experienced a brief period of confusion and then some anger at Matt Buckham for not giving me a proper cause. However, this was followed by a tremendous feeling of relief when I realized I was no longer responsible to the nation for a proper response to the next pandemic. It has been like a ton of concrete has been removed off my shoulders. Free of Stephanie Spear and free to speak



Written by [Rebecca Terrell](#) on November 4, 2025

out, it is my duty to let Americans know of the low level of performance exhibited by both Spear and Secretary Kennedy's Chief of Staff who appears to have tried to undermine him from the time Buckham was a White House Liaison.

NASS: One of the Causes Hatfill was fired for was lying. He was never a member of the Royal Society of Physicians.

My answer: You pay for a membership Mrs. Nass, and it's called the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) you idiot. The RCP membership aims to support medical students, postgraduates and practicing physicians. [Membership | RCP](#). I signed up when I was penniless doing a stint as a researcher at Oxford University, England.

NASS: And forgery. He forged a PhD diploma.

My answer: Mrs. Nass, I have a Bachelor's Degree, a Medical Degree and 3 Masters degrees, one in Molecular Biology/virology, one in Medical Biochemistry, and one in Experimental Pathology. I am board-eligible for a specialty in Hematological Pathology in the Commonwealth. I hold a Certificate of training in Human Clinical Research from the National Institutes of Health. I don't really need another degree.

Because of your actions for self-promotion, and your desire for attention by maintaining that a biological warfare attack took place in Rhodesia, I am one of the most investigated men in FBI history. It went on for years with a Task Force of roughly 25 to 30 full-time investigators from the FBI, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and other law enforcement agencies, as well as federal prosecutors from the District of Columbia and the Justice Department's Counterterrorism Section. **All this largely triggered largely [sic] by your incompetence, your failure to follow the science, and the delusional belief that you solved the "Rhodesia Anthrax Mystery".** If there was any forgery, Mrs. Nass, I most certainly would have been charged with it...

On the other hand, Mrs. Nass, we have a defrocked doctor (yourself) who exhibits poor judgment, with a Medical License forcibly suspended for lying (and one article mentions fraud). Some of your patients have serious open concerns about your ability to practice medicine. You were ordered to undergo a psychological examination. I would suggest that you take that — please. You may send me the bill. On top of this, you are apparently now providing outside advise to the Secretary of HHS. With no formal training in diplomacy, nuclear or chemical weapons, you are dabbling as an amateur diplomat in the field of Arms Control legislation for *Weapons of Mass Destruction*. I believe you also had some input to the Gain of Function EO. There are now two separate PCCs trying now to sort out that unholy mess. What could possibly go wrong?

NASS: He has never had a medical license in the United States — so how could he be a "Chief Medical Officer"?

My answer: After joining HHS as a Senior Advisor, I was eventually assigned as Chief Medical Officer for ASPR. I arrived with firm plans to improve local authority pandemic resilience, shift pandemic management away from vaccines to early outpatient drug treatments for RNA viral pathogens, and to improve foreign disease surveillance with rapid outbreak verification. **I carefully outlined my plans in a [book](#) that is available for free on Amazon Kindle** with hardcopies at Amazon and Barnes and Noble [sic]. I was



Written by [Rebecca Terrell](#) on November 4, 2025

implementing those plans when Matt Buckham told me the Secretary had asked for my resignation because he want [sic] to take ASPR in another direction.

Hatfill goes on to describe HHS as an agency “in free-fall” due to both internal and external conflicts of interest. He expresses concerns that drastic changes are necessary for RKF, Jr. to “survive past mid-term elections,” saying that if he doesn’t, it would be a tragedy for our nation.

Update 11/10/2025

In response to *The New American*’s report, Nass issued a [rebuttal](#) on her Substack titled “‘Dr.’ Steven Hatfill produced a screed of lies following my challenge to the false narrative he created about being fired at HHS.” She flatly denies most of his [claims](#), some of which are not included in the above excerpt, and concludes that “being shamed by Hatfill is in fact a badge of honor.”

As a sidenote, Dr. Robert W. Malone cross-posted Nass’s substack on his [own](#), writing, “The narrative that there is an ongoing palace coup against Secretary Kennedy, that this was the reason Steven Hatfill was terminated, is false. Steven Hatfill was terminated for cause.” However, that cause is still uncertain, as Malone added: “Standard personnel practices within the [U.S. government] prevent disclosure of the cause.” Malone did not reveal further particulars.



Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative,
non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



Subscribe

What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.