

Wendy Williams is ‘permanently incapacitated’ after ongoing battle with dementia

by Haniyah Philogene | THE GRIO

(CELEBRITY) - New updates have surfaced about the health of former television personality Wendy Williams. Recently, Williams’ legal guardian, Sabrina Morrissey, revealed the star is now “permanently incapacitated” in new court filings, per The Independent.

“[Wendy Williams is] an acclaimed entertainer who, tragically, has been afflicted by early-onset dementia and, as a result, has become cognitively impaired and permanently incapacitated” the filing read.

Earlier this year, Lifetime released “Where is Wendy Williams?”, a documentary that gave fans a never-before-seen glimpse into the former talk show host’s life since stepping out of the limelight. In addition to reporting her whereabouts, the two-part documentary delved into Williams’ health status. Shortly before the documentary’s premiere, Williams’ team revealed the star was diagnosed with primary progressive aphasia and frontotemporal dementia after “undergoing several medical tests” in 2023.

Concerns for Williams’ health began to swirl in 2021 when she took a break from hosting her



Wendy Williams attends her being honored with a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on October 17, 2019 in Hollywood, California. (Photo by David Livingston/Getty Images)

eponymous talk show to tend to her battle with Graves’ disease. The show, which ran for 13 seasons over the course of 14 years, was eventually canceled in 2022 after a series of guest hosts filled Williams’ iconic purple chair during its final season, as the star never returned to the show.

The controversial documentary highlighted the conflicts surrounding Williams’ guardianship and those leading her care. As previously reported by theGrio, Morrissey filed a lawsuit alleging that Lifetime and its parent company, A&E, “shamelessly” exploited Williams in the “Where is Wendy Williams?” documentary.

“This blatant exploitation of a vulnerable woman with a serious medical condition who is beloved by millions within and outside of the African American community is disgusting, and it cannot be allowed,” the document read, noting that Williams was “not capable” of consenting to her contract with A&E Networks.

Though the legal guardian’s demand to stop the release of the film was denied, Williams’ case against the television networks was moved to the New York Supreme Court in October. This month, the star’s legal team submitted a request for a jury by trial.

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Why Trump’s HUD Pick Is a Red Flag for Housing Advocates

by Jennifer Porter Gore | WORD IN BLACK

(POLITICS) - Over the weekend, President-elect Trump announced his nomination of Scott Turner to lead the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Turner, a former NFL player and Texas legislator, would be the first — and so far, only — Black appointee in Trump’s second cabinet. But for housing advocates, his nomination and Trump’s anti-fair-housing agenda raise plenty of red flags.

Indeed, while most housing advocates know little about Turner, they’re amply aware of and concerned about what the second Trump Administration has signaled will be its housing policy.

During Trump’s first term, HUD — under Dr. Ben Carson — focused on policies like the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, designed to repair aging public housing. Since much of the nation’s public housing is more than 50 years old, many of the buildings need billions of dollars in repairs and updates. Sounds great, right?

Not so fast — those policies often came with a catch: HUD also supported closing public housing properties deemed “too expensive to fix,” leaving families with Section 8 vouchers that didn’t always translate into homes.

Having a voucher doesn’t guarantee finding housing. So, families may be unable to find a landlord who will accept the voucher — and, in some cases, the voucher can expire before the family finds a home.

“I suspect that a key initiative for this next administration will be to increase the number of public housing properties eligible for RAD, especially considering that Congress is now Republican-led and Congressional authorization is needed for this program,” Sue Popkin, a fellow with Urban Institute, tells Word In Black about Trump’s plans.

“Over the next four years, I hope that HUD will ensure these agencies have the support and resources needed to allow their residents to thrive,” she says. “I hope that Turner does not follow in Carson’s path by proposing cuts that would displace older adults and people with disabilities [who have] very low incomes.”

Peggy Bailey, executive vice president for policy and program development at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, says the new



Scott Turner

administration’s agenda could make things even worse.

“The incoming Administration has laid out an agenda that makes clear they will try to make it harder for people who are struggling to afford rent, worsen discrimination, and undercut effective efforts to address homelessness, similar to what we saw in the first Trump Administration,” she says.

Bailey is especially concerned because Turner’s nomination comes against the backdrop of the Trump administration’s previous efforts — criticized by both Democrats and Republicans — to dismantle fair housing protections. Slashing programs like the Community Development Block Grant falls right in line with the conservative Heritage Foundation’s Project 2025, which would reverse gains in fair housing and fair lending and shred the housing safety net.

For nine years, Turner played NFL football for the formerly named Washington Redskins, the San Diego Chargers and the Denver Broncos. He later was elected to the Texas legislature and served as a state representative until 2017.

During Trump’s first term he led the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, which was positioned as serving the nation’s “most distressed communities” in his Friday night announcement. He also serves as a chair at the Center for Education Opportunity at America First Policy Institute, a think tank aligned with Trump.

Ultimately, Bailey says, “Their plans will lead to more evictions and homelessness. We’ve seen this playbook before. Policymakers should reject these extreme proposals and prioritize making sure that everyone in this country can afford a home.”

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Integral Care is currently soliciting proposals to provide Pharmacy Services. The Request for Proposals (RFP) may be accessed at integralcare.org/business-opportunities. The deadline to submit a proposal under the RFP is 5:00 P.M. CST on January 10, 2025. Historically Underutilized Businesses, including Minority-Owned Businesses and Women-Owned Businesses, are encouraged to apply.

Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health
 1111 E. Cesar Chavez Street
 Austin, TX 78702

RFP 2511-001 - Life & Disability Benefits
Due Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2024, by 2:00 PM CT

The purpose of this Request for Proposals is to assist Central Health with identifying solutions and benefits for life and disability insurance to meet the objectives listed below:

- Provide Central Health employees with high-quality and valuable benefits at affordable pricing.
- Provide full consideration and review of current plans compared to new and enhanced benefit options available.
- Contract with vendors that can offer superior service and resources to employees and benefits staff.
- Offeror must quote on all requested coverages – Basic Life & AD&D, Voluntary Life & AD&D, Employer Paid Short-Term Disability, Voluntary Short-Term Disability, and Employer Paid Long-Term Disability.
- **The awardee must be prepared to contract by Dec. 30, 2024.**

Central Health is seeking to bundle their life and disability benefit coverages with the same vendor but will contract with separate vendors for these coverages, should that be most advantageous. The chosen vendor will allow a one-time open enrollment for all employees, including late enrollees, with no underwriting up to the guaranteed issue amount. Central Health requires the chosen voluntary life vendor to “grandfather” existing enrollees at current benefit amounts, with no underwriting required.

Package can be downloaded from:
 Bidnet Direct: <https://www.bidnetdirect.com/texas/traviscountyhealthcaredistrictdbcentralhealth>
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