# D.C. Council member Vince Gray experiences another stroke but remains committed to council duties



D.C. Council member Vince Gray (D-Ward 7) experienced another stroke in late April and has since remained in inpatient physical therapy, as confirmed by his office. Gray, aged 81, was hospitalized for two days following the stroke and subsequently transferred to a rehabilitation center due to intensified mobility issues. This follows a previous stroke in December 2021 that led to ongoing health challenges.

Gray’s spokesman, Chuck Thies, described the incident as a “recent, minor stroke,” indicating that Gray’s cognitive abilities remain unaffected. Gray emphasized his health challenges have not hindered his responsibilities as a council member. Despite this latest health episode, Gray has continued to participate in council business remotely.

Discontent arose when D.C. Council Chairman Phil Mendelson (D) publicly mentioned Gray’s health setback via Twitter without consulting him first. Gray expressed his displeasure, stating that the well-wishes could have been more personally conveyed.

Gray plans to complete his term, which ends in January 2025, but he announced in December 2022 that he would not seek reelection. Ten candidates are competing for the Democratic nomination to replace him. Gray endorsed Wendell Felder for the position.

Gray has faced additional health hurdles, including a ruptured Achilles tendon in August 2022 and a fall at home in October. Mendelson re-assigned Gray from chairing the health committee to leading the committee on hospitals and health equity in January 2023, prompting Gray to file a discrimination complaint, which remains unresolved. Despite these challenges, Gray continues to engage with council activities and his constituents.