

January 18, 2022

RE: Board of Health Regulation to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the County, Vaccination Requirements to Enter Bars, Restaurants, Recreation Centers, and Other Covered Establishments

*“Apart from the peculiar tenets of individual thinkers, there is also in the world at large an increasing inclination to stretch unduly the powers of society over the individual, both by the force of opinion and even by that of legislation: and as the tendency of all the changes taking place in the world is to strengthen society, and diminish the power of the individual, this encroachment is not one of the **evils** which tend spontaneously to disappear, but, on the contrary, to grow more and more formidable. The disposition of mankind, whether as rulers or as fellow-citizens to impose their own opinions and inclinations as a rule of conduct on others, is so energetically supported by some of the **best** and by some of the **worst** feelings incident to human nature, that it is hardly ever kept under restraint by anything but want of power; and as the power is not declining, but growing, unless a strong **barrier of moral conviction** can be raised against the mischief, we must expect, in the present circumstances of the world, to see it increase.”*

On Liberty, John Stuart Mill, 1859

Montgomery County Council,

The above quote from a writing in 1859 I found to be beyond timely and a bit ironic in the face of our global fight for freedom from medical tyranny and oppression. I talk to my kids daily about their natural, God given, inherent, birthright freedoms. It seems like you could all benefit from a simple reminder. We all have basic non-negotiable liberties, including our right to not participate, consent, or comply when an order, mandate, rule, regulation, edict, or proclamation is unlawful. While the vast majority of MoCo residents couldn't pick any of you out of a lineup, nor do they even know there is a County Council that actually has the authority to influence their daily lives, my kids know all of you as the local bullies.

They ask me why they have to wear a mask every time we go to their martial arts class. I try to keep a straight face when I tell them it's for "safety" but they know it's ridiculous. Evidence be damned, soon enough after you lawlessly force this vaccine passport on the county while pretending to be health experts you would amend it again and again, making it more and more restrictive, adding additional covered establishments and exemptions. All while following the "science" for our "safety" right? Oh, and Hans's wife needs that big Pfizer bonus too, don't forget that. Seems hypocritical and very uncaring to me. Would you even care if I told you that the business actually went under and the owner was going to file Chapter 7 because you shut it down for "safety". Luckily, despite the feckless leadership, there are truly angels in this County, people who really do care about each other. A local retired woman wrote a significant personal check to the business to keep it going and thank God for her.

Is the goal of zero infection or transmission and 100% safety with any airborne, upper respiratory virus really achievable? Seems like an impossible goal but yet you continue to prod on with your draconian and absurd mandates. I myself got Covid-19 from my fully vaccinated family member and now we both have antibodies. I also recall Mark Elrich issuing dire warnings to residents about the dangerous unvaccinated dissenters being the origin of all infections in one of his weekly videos. What an

ignorant and vile comment from a County leader, proclaiming to lead the way for inclusion and diversity while stoking fear and division. This unprovable lie, was truly insulting and disappointing to hear.

We're all supportive of anti-bullying here in MoCo. So I ask you, how is your behavior any different than that of a bully who is appeased and gets away with intimidating others, and then returns emboldened to see what else they can get away with? Wear a mask, wear two masks, wear a face shield, wear gloves, social distance, test, stand here, wait outside, isolate, quarantine, vax, boost, show me proof, what's your status, etc. The more we permit, the more you persist. Last time I checked, I didn't vote for anyone at the CDC. We are all well aware that this charade of lies only benefits your political careers and not our health or safety in any meaningful way whatsoever.

You don't control our rights, and everything your proposing today is a game we never agreed to play. My elementary age children know exactly how to identify tyrants like you, and how they trick you into willingly giving them more illegitimate authority by constantly appealing to emotions like fear. They never offer a shred of evidence or allow you to ask questions or hold them accountable or worse yet ask them to own up to the real world impact of the aftermath of reckless and useless mandates. Don't pretend that a one hour slot, the day after MLK Day, or a three minute limit, and a wait list is justifiable. It seems deliberately intended to discourage a public debate.

You all are so lazy, you just copy and pasted Vaccine Mandates from other irrelevant Cities in the US where we do not live and work. We don't much care what DC, NYC, Chicago, or Philadelphia are lawlessly imposing on their residents. How is it that you can just copy and paste the CDC guidance as the foundation for all of your actions while we all discover more lies by the day? How is it that you believe you can simply copy other Cities violating the law and tell us, since they are doing it we should too? Meanwhile elitist hypocrites run around flaunting their own rules since this whole "pandemic" began.

I feel like this entire pandemic we've been pulled over and detained by a Cop who refuses to tell us why. Now, despite the lack of probable cause, namely that the unvaccinated are more dangerous than the vaccinated, you are insisting on detaining us unlawfully by way of a proven failure of an idea as a health order while you pretend to be health experts, based on the perversion and layering of multiple State and County Codes. If you guys were the Cops I would be asking you what is your probable cause? For disrupting our lives in such a dramatic, and seemingly indefinite manner? There must be some great benefit for us to agree to this criminal intrusion into our inherent birthright freedoms. All the while we watch the outcomes, results, and impact of your foolishness destroy our civil society from the roots.

As far as I'm concerned, you are not health experts, you violated rule 4(d) of your own procedures, and you're all cowards unwilling to face the people you are bullying by continuing to fear monger about an emergency so you can conveniently meet remotely from home while never missing a paycheck. We're tired of being told to just go along and don't dare question the elitist wisdom being bestowed upon us for our own good.

Please stop preaching your religion of fear and division in our schools, businesses, and homes, from the comfort of your deafening echo chamber of deluded half-truths, disproven pseudo-science, and deliberate lies. We don't need any more of your ideas or opinions.

Truth, Honor, Respect

William Karst