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Loudoun Chamber Board Adopts Policy Requiring Proof of COVID Vaccination or Negative Test Result for In-Person Activities

Rising case counts, hospital visits and threat of new COVID variants drive this policy

Loudoun County, Virginia — The Loudoun Chamber of Commerce has adopted a new policy, effective September 7th, requiring all attendees of any in-person, indoor Chamber event, meeting or other activity must provide proof of their COVID-19 vaccination status.

The policy offers exemptions for medical, religious, or other valid reasons, or for those who provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of attending a Chamber activity. This policy is intended as a temporary measure, and its need will be reassessed monthly through the end of 2021.

“This policy was not adopted lightly, but after weeks of careful consideration, research and discussion. It was a data driven decision based on the undeniable fact that vaccinated individuals are exponentially less likely to contract and transmit the virus to others,” said Chamber President Tony Howard.

Howard said the main objective of this policy is to ensure the health and safety of all attendees and guests at Loudoun Chamber events and meetings. In addition, the policy is intended to provide assurance to all attendees the Loudoun Chamber takes seriously its obligation to protect their health, and to help limit the spread of this deadly virus in our community.

Howard also said that the vaccine policy was also necessary to ensure the Chamber could fully carry out its obligation to serve its members.

“This pandemic proved that, while remote meeting platforms and other technologies have their place, humans thrive on face-to-face interaction, something our Chamber specializes in. Without bold action, government restrictions to limit COVID-19 will return and many businesses will suffer,” Howard added.

“My hope is everyone who is eligible gets vaccinated against COVID-19. We know from CDC data that the unvaccinated are at exponentially greater risk to contract and transmit COVID-19, are nearly 30 times more likely to be hospitalized and 120 times more likely to die from this virus,” Howard added.

The Loudoun Chamber’s policy on COVID-19 vaccine requirement [can be found here](#).

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