

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2021 3:16 PM

To: Douglas Van Essen <dvanessen@miottawa.org>

Cc: Frank Garcia <fgarcia@miottawa.org>; Joseph Baumann <jbaumann@miottawa.org>; Doug Zylstra <dzylstra@miottawa.org>; Allen Dannenberg <adannenberg@miottawa.org>; Randall Meppelink <rmeppelink@miottawa.org>; Kyle Terpstra <kterpstra@miottawa.org>; Greg DeJong <gdejong@miottawa.org>; Philip Kuyers <pkuyers@miottawa.org>; Matthew Fenske <mfenske@miottawa.org>; The Office of Senator Victory <senrvictory@senate.michigan.gov>; Rep. Luke Meerman (District 88) <lukemeerman@house.mi.gov>; Congressman Bill Huizenga <mi02bhima@mail.house.gov>; Roger Bergman <rbergman@miottawa.org>; Jim Holtvluwer <jholtvluwer@miottawa.org>; Marcia Mansaray <mmansaray@miottawa.org>; Lisa Stefanovsky <lstefanovsky@miottawa.org>

Subject: Re: COVID Shot Mandate for School Kids

Holy Cow! I will simply point out 4 things:

1) I am TERRIFIED that our County Legal Counsel says an unelected local health employee has the UNLIMITED POWER to impose COVID shots on kids in school!

2) I would remind everyone that for the last year we were promised that Ottawa County would "never" impose mask mandates on its own...even Commissioner DeJong bravely pointed that out at the meeting the other day. Now they have imposed mandates on their own! So I would not count on any promises from Mr. Van Essen to the contrary.

3) Related to that, I think Mr. Van Essen's comment is a clear attempt on his part to interfere with the supposedly "independent" health director. Commissioners, is it appropriate for the County Legal Counsel to put word's in the Health Director's mouth that way?

4) I am also APPALLED that an unelected county lawyer is lecturing our ELECTED officials Mr. Meerman, Mr. Victory, and Mr. Huizenga and telling them when they should or should not pass laws protecting citizens! That is just crazy. But it shows how drunk with power people can become.

Will our elected officials do anything about these things?

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

On Thursday, August 26, 2021, 09:56:40 AM EDT, Douglas Van Essen <dvanessen@miottawa.org> wrote:

The HD absolutely holds that right as was established by the United States Supreme Court in Jacobson v. Massachusetts, which the 6th Circuit applied on Tuesday to the Michigan mask mandate. But, Lisa is NOT going to issue such an order. In fact, her preK-6 order sunsets on vaccine AVAILABILITY ONLY, not even use. On the continuum of vaccine compulsion, no physical school, complete mask mandate for all students, limited indoor mandate conditioned on parental choice with available vaccine or do nothing, she chose the least intrusive action.

Since you are copying our legislative contingent let me remind everyone that just as you should never go to the grocery store when hungry, do not change the law during a pandemic. The Public Health Code was enacted after the small pox pandemic when things were just as raw politically. COVID may or may not be as bad as smallpox,

the death toll is still mounting, but smallpox or some other even more deadly virus could surface and if we don't have the tools to deal with it, innocent people will die.

My Dad died at 91 and NEVER endured a pandemic. Hopefully, we won't see another during my grandchildren's lifetime. No law like this is perfect, but if we all settle down, the Public Health Code has worked well during this pandemic. LEAVE it alone. You CANNOT deal with public health crises with town hall democracy (aka in a pandemic—"mob rule").

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This communication may contain confidential materials subject to the Attorney/Client Privilege

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 11:52 PM
To: Douglas Van Essen <dvanessen@miottawa.org>
Cc: Frank Garcia <fgarcia@miottawa.org>; Joseph Baumann <jbaumann@miottawa.org>; Doug Zylstra <dzylstra@miottawa.org>; Allen Dannenberg <adannenberg@miottawa.org>; Randall Meppelink <rmeppelink@miottawa.org>; Kyle Terpstra <kterpstra@miottawa.org>; Greg DeJong <gdejong@miottawa.org>; Philip Kuyers <pkuyers@miottawa.org>; Matthew Fenske <mfenske@miottawa.org>; The Office of Senator Victory <senrvictory@senate.michigan.gov>; Rep. Luke Meerman (District 88) <lukemeerman@house.mi.gov>; Congressman Bill Huizenga <mi02bhima@mail.house.gov>; [REDACTED REDACTED REDACTED]; Roger Bergman <rbergman@miottawa.org>; Jim Holtvluwer <jholtvluwer@miottawa.org>; Marcia Mansaray <mmansaray@miottawa.org>; Lisa Stefanovsky <lstefanovsky@miottawa.org>
Subject: COVID Shot Mandate for School Kids

Hi Doug,

I have a very important question, that has come up in discussions with school officials.

If Ottawa County Health Department employees felt it was necessary to fight the COVID pandemic, do they have the authority to mandate that every student in Ottawa County schools (public and private) ages 12 and up get a COVID vaccine as a condition of attending school in the county?

Thanks for your input.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]