

Maury County Tennessee
State of Emergency
By County Mayor Andy Ogles

AN ORDER TO PROTECT HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN MAURY COUNTY FROM HARRASEMENT, INTIMIDATION, ADVERSE ACTIONS OR TERMINATION FOR ASSERTING RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION OR RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE AND THEIR CONSTITUTIONALLY PROTECTED RIGHT TO VOLUNTARY INFORMED CONSENT AS IT PERTAINS TO THE COVID-19 VACCINE, AND TO PREVENT THE DISRUPTION OF HEALTCARE SERVICES AND TO PROTECT CRITICAL HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE IN MAURY COUNTY.

WHEREAS, local, state and federal officials have taken numerous actions to mitigate the impacts of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), including a series of statewide executive orders, nationwide emergency declaration by Presidents Trump and Biden, and many local health and emergency orders and actions; and

WHEREAS, as the Mayor of Maury County, I have sworn an oath to God and the people of Maury County to support the Constitutions of the State of Tennessee and the United States; and

WHEREAS, State and Federal Constitutions were constructed to protect the rights, liberties, and freedoms of all citizens as set forth in the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment without exclusions; and

WHEREAS, it is the inalienable right under common and codified law that every person be secure and protected from fear, intimidation, harassment and coercion, particularly as it pertains to their limbs, body, and health; and

WHEREAS, the tax and spend power may provide contractual rights to the federal government, a contract cannot change the allocation of powers and duties under the Constitution, and a constitutional power cannot be exercised to de facto amend the separation of dual sovereigns established by the Constitution, and

WHEREAS, State sovereignty is not just an end in itself; rather, it protects the constitutional liberty of all persons within a State by ensuring that laws enacted in excess of delegated governmental power cannot direct or control their actions; and

WHEREAS, the Preamble to the Bill of Rights states that its purpose was to set forth “further declaratory and restrictive clauses” in order “to prevent misconstruction or abuse” of the federal government’s enumerated powers; and

WHEREAS, no power to regulate health and medical practices was delegated to the United States nor prohibited by it to the States, rather such powers are reserved to the States respectively, and to the people; and

WHEREAS, as written by United States Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story in section 416 of his Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States he stressed the importance of our system of federal and state sovereigns with the words:

Each, by the theory of government, is essential to the existence and due preservation of the powers and obligations of the other. The destruction of either would be equally calamitous, since it would involve the ruin of that beautiful fabric of balanced government, which has been reared with so much care and wisdom, and in which the people have reposed their confidence, as the truest safeguard of their civil, religious, and political liberties[;]

NOW THEREFORE, I, Andy Ogles, Mayor of Maury County of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution and applicable law, in light of the continuing states of emergency, and to prevent a shortage of healthcare workers and subsequent disruptions to critical healthcare infrastructure. I do hereby recognize religious exemptions and rights of conscience as provided in state and federal law and the fundamental right of all persons under the U.S. Constitution to be secure in regard to their limbs, body, and health as it pertains to the Covid-19 vaccine and do hereby declare in full force and effect all federal, state, and local laws that prohibit harassment, intimidation, adverse actions or termination of employment of persons who provide healthcare services in Maury County in relation to a Covid-19 vaccine mandate during this declared state of emergency and that protect their inalienable and constitutional rights to religious liberty and rights of conscience and their liberty to make a voluntary and fully informed consent to any touching of their limbs or body affecting their health in relation to a Covid-19 vaccine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature and caused the seal of Maury County to be affixed this 18th day of November, 2021.

Mayor Andy Ogles