

Philadelphia Announces Double Mask or Vaccine Mandates for Government Workers

Description

USA: The Mayor and Health Commissioner of Philadelphia dropped an announcement Wednesday that unvaccinated city employees will need to wear *two* masks while working indoors and that all new hires after September 1 will have to be vaccinated.

<u>The Philadelphia Inquirer</u> noted the details of Mayor Jim Kenney and acting Health Commissioner Cheryl Bettigole's announcement.

During a remote press briefing, Bettigole demonstrated that wearing two masks is "cumbersome," and stated that "Luckily there is something else that you could do to protect yourself: You could be vaccinated."

Watch:

More broadly, the rules in Philadelphia on masks to enter events spaces and

and businesses are somewhat unclear because it will fall on businesses themselves to enforce the measures. Business owners are faced with either mandating masks indoors or setting up their own vaccination status checking system for both customers and employees. The report states:

Businesses seeking to avoid the mask mandate should have clear signage at their entrances indicating they will be verifying customers' vaccination status... Those found out of compliance will first be warned and given time to correct, then could be forced to close and pay a \$315 fine for re-inspection.

Outdoor events will see those in attendance having to wear masks if there are more than 1000 people, unless everyone is seated.

ABC6 News also reported on the new confusing mask mandate in the city.

Watch:

Mayor Kenney declared that "It goes without saying that none of us want to be here discussing restrictions and policies needed to stem the spread of COVID-19. The science is clear: These measures will protect Philadelphians and save lives."

When Kenney was asked if even more restrictive policies could be put into place going forward, he replied "Not if everyone acts like a mature adult."

"I'm upset that people just can't act in the way they are supposed to act ... and do what's good for everybody," Kenney continued.

"Please, just get the vaccine," Kenney said, adding "This could all be avoided if we did that."

This all comes just two months after the city lifted its 14-month-long mask mandate and other limits on businesses and events.

<u>As we have noted</u>, several other cities are beginning to enforce draconian vaccine mandates, essentially locking out those who haven't taken the shots.

by Steve Watson

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