



TOWN OF LITCHFIELD

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The crisis that the Emergency Management Services and fire departments in Maine face today exists for two reasons. First, the State Legislature has delegated its lawmaking duty to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Second, the governor of Maine and the DHHS have decided not to follow scientific research as it pertains to the virus and feel compelled to remove peoples' right to individual and God given freedoms.

If you do your own research and spend the time to listen to something other than mainstream and government propaganda you will find that the facts are: if you get the vaccine, it does not protect you from getting COVID; it doesn't protect others from getting it from you; and in some cases, it doesn't stop you from becoming violently ill or dying. All this being said, there is no justification for any politician or branch of Maine government to have the power to force any individual to get this vaccine against their beliefs or judgement of what they consider necessary for their own health and welfare.

Considering these issues, it is even more disturbing that any government official would feel empowered to dictate that our volunteers in the fire department and emergency rescue be forced to receive any vaccine that has not been proven to be safe and effective to totally stop the illness. As a matter of concern, it may even allow the virus to morph into a more potent and deadly version. It should concern all citizens that government says "follow the science" until the science doesn't agree with their agenda, or when it distracts from other political issues. Furthermore, the EMS vaccine mandate/dictate has the potential to cripple emergency rescue and fire department response time and their ability to effectively save lives and buildings. Therefore, all citizens should be concerned with the overreach of our government administrations, and Governor Mills, who has been reported to have made the comment "just go hire other employees." Exactly where are these trained individuals going to come from? Consider we are talking about 20-30% of our first responders with years of mandated training and experience who selflessly volunteer their time to serve the community. Therefore, I believe it is time for this board to stand for the right of our first responders to choose what is safe and healthy for their body and mind.

I would propose we initiate a resolution to support this right and furthermore file suit and join any class action lawsuit to oppose DHHS and the governor's mandate.

Sincerely,

Gary Parker,
Chair, Litchfield Board of Selectmen

ATTEST

Kelly D. Weissenfels
Town Clerk