

SOUTH CAROLINA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

"Serving the Sheriffs of South Carolina Since 1913"

www.sheriffsc.com

Jarrold M. Bruder
Executive Director

Sheriff Kevin Tolson
President

SC Sheriffs' Association Issues Statement on Presidential Orders Mandating COVID-19 Vaccinations

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – September 17, 2021

Columbia, SC – Sheriffs across South Carolina have received various inquiries from citizens and the media alike regarding the COVID-19 vaccination Executive Orders recently issued by President Biden. The current Executive Orders pertain to federal Executive Branch employees and federal contractors. While the Administration has asked the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to develop a rule that will require all employers with 100 or more employees to ensure their workforce is fully vaccinated or require workers who remain unvaccinated to produce a negative test result at least weekly, such rule does not currently exist and will require a notice and comment period prior to implementation. After the notice and comment periods end, the enactment of this rule will likely be further delayed as the courts will almost certainly be asked to determine the validity and constitutionality of the rule itself.

Many have expressed concerns about these Executive Orders. Quite frankly, we all should be leery of government overreach on any level. South Carolina citizens should not, however, worry about their Sheriffs enforcing federal law. In South Carolina, the Office of Sheriff is established in the State Constitution and the South Carolina General Assembly determines the duties of the Sheriff through statute. Ultimately, South Carolina Sheriffs possess no statutory authority to enforce federal law, including Presidential Executive Orders. Additionally, neither the South Carolina General Assembly nor the Governor have utilized their authority to mandate COVID-19 vaccinations. So, while South Carolina's Sheriffs encourage you to consult with your doctor about your individual medical situation and whether the COVID-19 vaccine is appropriate for you, they cannot enforce the Executive Orders issued by President Biden on September 9, 2021.

As always, South Carolina Sheriffs will remain committed to fulfilling their Oaths of Office, protecting citizens' rights and freedoms, and preserving, protecting, and defending the Constitution of this State and of the United States.

Should there be any questions or a need further information, please contact Jarrod Bruder, Executive Director of the SC Sheriffs' Association, by email at jbruder@sheriffsc.com.

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Tuten, Lori

From: Jarrod Bruder <jbruder@sheriffsc.com>
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2021 2:18 PM
To: Anthony Dennis (adennis@sumtercountysc.org); Barry Faile; Brian Wallace; Buddy Hill; Carter Weaver; Chad McBride; Chuck Wright (cwright@spartanburgcounty.org); Clarke Stearns; Daniel Simon (dsimon@leecountysc.org); Dennis Kelly (dkelly@greenwoodsc.gov); Don Reynolds (dreynolds@laurenssheriff.com); Donald Hipp; Duane Lewis (duane.lewis@berkeleycountysc.gov); James Hudson; JD Dixon (jdixon@chesterfieldsheriff.org); Jody Rowland; Josh Price; Kenny Bamberg; Kevin Tolson; Kristin Graziano; L. C. Knight (lcknight@dorchestercounty.net); Lee Boan; Lee Foster (lfoster@ncso.sc.gov); Lemon Charles (sandy.wilkes@leo.gov); Leon Lott (sheriff@rcsd.net); Leroy Ravenell (lravenell@orangeburgcounty.org); Lewis, Hobart; Max Dorsey (SheriffDorsey@chesterso.com); Michael Hunt (sheriff@aikencountysc.gov); Mike Crenshaw (mcrenshaw@oconeelaw.com); Tanner, PJ; pernell@dillonsheriff.org; Ray Watson (rwatson@abbevillecountysc.com); Rick Clark (rclark@co.pickens.sc.us); sgardner@wcso.sc.gov; Sheriff Jay Koon; Sheriff Phillip Thompson (thomps@horrycounty.org); sheriffjbailey@countyofunion.com; Steve Mueller (smueller@cherokeecountysheriff.net); Steven Griffith; T. C. Smalls (tcsmls@hamptoncountysc.org); Thomas Summers Jr. (sheriffsummers@windstream.net); Tim Baxley (tbaxley@clarendoncountygov.org); TJ Joye; Tom Carter Jr. (sheriffcarter@allendalesheriff.com); Will Montgomery (Will.Montgomery@fairfield.sc.gov); willmontgomery12@yahoo.com
Subject: SCSA Statement on Presidential EOs Requiring Vaccinations
Attachments: SCSA Statement on Presidential EOs Requiring Vaccinations.pdf

Sheriffs,

Many of you were able to participate in the Zoom call this morning where we discussed the potential of our Association issuing a statement on the Presidential Executive Orders that require COVID-19 vaccinations. For those of you who were not able to participate in the call, we discussed the need to address the Sheriff's role in enforcing federal law, specifically Executive Orders. After much discussion, a motion was made and passed that required the Executive Director to develop and issue the attached statement on behalf of the Association. Obviously, Sheriffs have a right to expound upon this statement in whatever way you see fit (or ignore it altogether).

I plan to post the attached PDF to the SCSA Facebook page around 3:30pm today. (I have included the statement below that can also be cut and pasted wherever you wish.) I want to give you all an opportunity to prepare for questions from your own media/citizens. Feel free to direct inquiries to me if you don't want to field the questions.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,
Jarrod

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