

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 26, 2021**

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-24

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department of the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) requests that the HANO Board of Commissioners approve a COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for the Agency; and

WHEREAS, the city of New Orleans has been under a declared local state of emergency since March 11, 2020, when the Mayoral proclamation entitled "Mayoral Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to COVID-19" was filed in Civil District Court; and

WHEREAS, HANO's efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 are critical to the health and wellbeing of HANO employees and other persons with whom they interact in the provision of services; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has stated that vaccination is an effective tool to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and benefits both vaccine recipients and those they come into contact with; and

WHEREAS, three COVID-19 vaccines have received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and proven to be highly effective in protecting against COVID-19 infections with resulting serious illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths; and

WHEREAS, many HANO employees hold positions in which they come into contact with other people in the course of their work for the Agency, and are thus in a position to transmit or contract COVID-19 while they are at work; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for HANO employees to get vaccinated and that those who do not get vaccinated receive routine COVID-19 testing on a weekly basis to ensure that the risks of transmission or contraction of COVID-19 by HANO employees are mitigated to the extent possible; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that HANO promote and adopt the best health and safety practices recognized in light of current scientific understanding of the conditions under which COVID-19 can spread; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Vaccination policy will remain in effect until the termination of the state of emergency declared via the Mayoral proclamation entitled "Mayoral Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to COVID-19" on March 11, 2020.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of New Orleans hereby approves the HANO COVID-19 Vaccination Policy and further and authorizes the Executive Director, Evette Hester, to execute all documents necessary to implement the vaccination policy.

Executed this 26th day of October, 2021.

APPROVAL:



DEBRA JOSEPH
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



October 26, 2021

MEMORANDUM

**To: Board of Commissioners
President Debra Joseph, Vice President Isabel Barrios,
Commissioner Avery Foret, Commissioner Sharon Jasper,
Commissioner Carol Johnson, Commissioner Monika McKay,
Commissioner Kim Piper and Commissioner Bill Rouselle**

**Through: Evette Hester
Executive Director**

**From: Kevin Oufnac
General Counsel**

Re: Approval of HANO's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) is requesting that the Board of Commissioners approve the implementation of a COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for agency employees. The city of New Orleans has been under a declared local state of emergency since March 11, 2020, when the Mayoral proclamation entitled "Mayoral Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to COVID-19" was filed in Civil District Court; and HANO's efforts to continue to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 are critical to the health and wellbeing of HANO employees and other persons with whom they interact in the provision of services.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has stated that vaccination is an effective tool to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and benefits both vaccine recipients and those they come into contact with. Three COVID-19 vaccines have received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and proven to be highly effective in protecting against COVID-19 infections with resulting serious illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths.

Many HANO employees hold positions in which they come into contact with other people in the course of their work for the Agency, and are thus in a position to transmit or contract COVID-19 while they are at work.

The specific provisions for which HANO seeks approval are shown in the document attached hereto and addresses HANO's proposed COVID-19 vaccination policy for agency employees. It is essential for HANO employees to get vaccinated and that those who do not get vaccinated receive routine COVID-19 testing on a weekly basis to ensure that the risks of transmission or contraction of COVID-19 by HANO employees are mitigated to the extent possible.

The COVID-19 Vaccination policy will remain in effect until the termination of the state of emergency declared via the Mayoral proclamation entitled "Mayoral Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to COVID-19" on March 11, 2020.

It is imperative that HANO promote and adopt the best health and safety practices recognized in light of current scientific understanding of the conditions under which COVID-19 can spread, and therefore, HANO's Human Resources Department respectfully requests the HANO Board of Commissioners' approval of the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for agency employees that is attached to this memorandum.