



City of Middletown

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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For Immediate Release

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CITY OF MIDDLETOWN EMPLOYEES REQUIRED TO GET WEEKLY COVID TEST IF UNVACCINATED

Middletown, CT – Mayor Ben Florsheim announced the latest policy pertaining to City of Middletown employees, related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting Saturday, August 7, 2021, and until further notice, if an employee is not fully vaccinated, they will have to get tested for COVID-19 weekly and produce the results to their immediate supervisor. Sections 6 and 7 of the City of Middletown’s Amended Emergency Leave Policy (Date of Implementation: August 6, 2021) provide detailed instructions for employees. The policy states that the best prevention for COVID-19 is a vaccine. All City employees are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated if they have not been vaccinated already. The policy outlines the testing requirements for unvaccinated employees, who will need to use their own time if they need to quarantine due to COVID-19.

The policy goes on to outline instructions for vaccinated employees, including that the City will provide vaccinated employees all benefits required under the FFCRA subject to any caps, limitations, and traditional FMLA allowances. The policy also outlines protocols related to travel, testing, quarantining, and what to do in the event of symptoms or exposure to someone who is known to have COVID-19. The City of Middletown’s policy is to treat any medical information as a confidential medical record, and maintain the confidentiality of such information to the maximum extent permitted by law. If employees have questions about the policy, they are encouraged to contact the Human Resources Director.

As previously announced, City Hall had been closed and employees were working remotely until Monday, August 9, 2021. This was in response to a concentrated but still small outbreak of cases within the building; the closure was intended to halt any further spread and protect city staff and the public. City Hall, as well as all other City buildings, are now open to the public. Employees and the public, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask in City-owned buildings until further notice.

Mayor Florsheim noted, “The best prevention for COVID-19 is a vaccine. All City employees are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated if they have not been vaccinated already. If an employee has not been fully vaccinated, but would like to do so, they can contact the City’s Health Department for guidance. The City of Middletown’s COVID-19 policy is made in consultation with local public health officials, who are up-to-date on the latest guidance from the CDC. The policy is vetted to make sure it complies with local, state, and national laws. The spirit and intent of the policy is to keep everyone, employees, their friends and families, and the public as safe as possible. The COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us all how truly interconnected we are. Each individual’s action has ramifications beyond just their own well-being. I hope all City of Middletown employees, and everyone in the community, will do everything they can to keep people as safe as possible, so we can all enjoy life and work toward a better future.”

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