



LOCAL 22 UNION GRAM

Local 22, IAFF Philadelphia Firefighters' & Paramedics' Union

President Mike Bresnan, **Vice President** Tommy McKiernan, **Vice President** Chuck McQuilkin, **Recording Secretary** Jack Eltman, **Treasurer** Brian Coughlin, **Trustees** Raymond Vozzelli, Walt Faber, Tom Kane, **Sgt at Arms** Eddie Mulholland, and Mike Conroy

22-02

April 19, 2022

COVID VACCINE MANDATE ACT 111-UPDATE

- 2.1 Local 22 concluded presenting its testimony before the neutral arbitrator Mr. Robert Gifford Esq. on Monday April 11th. Local 22's case was supported by the expert testimony of Admiral Brett Giroir. Admiral Giroir served on the White House Coronavirus Task Force under President Trump and President Biden. He also attended meetings with Dr. Fauci and served advisory public health roles throughout numerous presidential administrations. Admiral Giroir provided the arbitration panel with excellent testimony on how the city's position on their vaccine mandate is outdated and made no sense at his point.

All throughout our preparation and presentation of testimony, the executive board worked to reach a settlement with the city. But Mayor Kenney and his administration have been stubborn in their authoritarian ways. He is attempting to refute his lame-duck status by forcing this one-size fits all mandate and its dire consequences on our members. Now, the city has transferred complete autonomy to finalize the arbitration to Ballard Spahr's attorney, Mrs. Shannon Farmer.

We have achieved much by not passively accepting the city's terms for this vaccine mandate, and we will not settle on any terms that results in member's losing their jobs. Recognizing that the neutral arbitrator's decision may not be in our favor, we stress that every member who is not documented as vaccinated should submit a religious or medical exemption request. Members considering vaccination will have time after the arbitrator's decision to begin the vaccination schedule.

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