

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-2022
(Protecting Fundamental Rights of Nassau County Employees)

WHEREAS, government has a responsibility to protect the fundamental right of citizens, including its workforce; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York is one of only eight states in the nation that require people to wear masks in indoor public places; and

WHEREAS, more than ninety-eight percent of Nassau County adults are vaccinated against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, forcing employees to wear masks could inhibit breathing, lead to the collection of dangerous impurities including bacteria, parasites, fungi, and other contaminants, and adversely affect communications in the line of duty and performance of abilities; and


WHEREAS, Nassau County government has rejected mask mandates ordered by the Governor of the State of New York and will not enforce such requirements; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County government has a Home Rule responsibility to prevent the state, its subdivisions, or any governmental institution, from infringing on the fundamental rights of its citizenry without demonstrating that such action is reasonable and necessary to achieve a compelling state interest and that such action is narrowly tailored and is not otherwise served by less restrictive means; and

WHEREAS, we should equally and uniformly protect the freedoms and rights of citizens across the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bruce A. Blakeman, as County Executive of the County of Nassau, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Nassau County Charter and the Laws of the State of New York, and all other applicable laws, direct that Nassau County agencies cease all public place mask enforcement mandates and directives issued by the State of New York and previous Nassau County administration. This Executive Order is effective immediately.

Dated: January 6, 2022



BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN
COUNTY EXECUTIVE