

Mohave County Board of Supervisors

On March 18, 2020, Chairman Bishop issued an emergency proclamation in the unincorporated areas of Mohave County. The proclamation states: *“by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Arizona do hereby determine that the Covid-19 outbreak **presents conditions in Mohave County which may be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of Mohave County, and thus justifies a declaration of emergency.**”*

- A. The authority Chairman Bishop refers to is ARS 26-311 which states in part, *“**The chairman of the board of supervisors, if authorized by ordinance or resolution, may by proclamation declare an emergency or a local emergency to exist.**”*
  
- B. ARS 26-301 defines “Local Emergency” “ as the *existence of conditions of disaster or of **EXTREME PERIL** to the safety of persons or property within the territorial limits of a county, city or town, which conditions are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of such political subdivision as determined by its governing body”*

***These conditions were not met at the time the proclamation was signed and have not been confirmed to exist to date.***

Director Burley asserts that there is medical and scientific evidence to support isolation, social distancing, masking, and testing of healthy people to contain a virus. She erroneously suggests a correlation between these mandates and the reduced number of “positive cases” in Mohave County. Using her own metrics, the biggest correlation in positive case increases occurred immediately AFTER masks were required in June and subsided a month later. Does correlation mean causation?

Chairman Bishop and Director Burley have willfully failed to consider the trade-offs these restrictions have had on businesses and citizens economically, physically or psychologically. The only metric that has been quantified and glorified by the media is “Positive Case Numbers”. This is a contextless and absurd metric and which ensures a return to pre-Covid-19 conditions will never happen unless you stop testing.

The justification for the emergency declaration and mitigation efforts was always “Hospital Strain”. Remember, “15 days to flatten the curve”? Chairman Bishop and Director Burley have been intentionally ignoring this metric in favor of one that has and will forever prevent “a return to pre-covid life”. Hospitals, State and Municipal governments, corporations, chosen businesses and the media have all been incentivized to continue this political scaremongering charade at the expense of its citizens.

Hospital Strain and other necessary metrics were intentionally ignored because an investigation would reveal that Mohave County Hospitals:

1. Never reached a critical level of resource scarcity or available beds that lasted for more than a few days, even with whole wards dedicated to Covid-19 patients.
2. Intermittently furloughed nurses and other medical personnel during the Covid outbreak due to lack of patients.

Chairman Bishop and Director Burley's authority to implement and enforce Covid-19 mitigation measures must be revoked and rescinded ***until it can be determined that conditions exist which are beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of Mohave County.***

Thank you,

Greg Befort

gregbefort@gmail.com

775-313-5070