



January 7, 2021

Governor DeWine;

On behalf of the Mayors' Association of Ohio, we respectfully urge you to include law-enforcement officers on the list of individuals that will be the first to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Our men and women in law enforcement put their lives on the line for Ohioans every day in the line of duty. By ensuring they are administered the coronavirus vaccine in the first phase of the rollout, we can eliminate one of the many risks to their lives they encounter by serving our residents and communities.

It is also important to consider that Ohio's law-enforcement officers are at a high risk of both contracting and spreading the virus if they are unvaccinated, as their responsibilities result in thousands of close-contact interactions with Ohioans every single day. Additionally, when an officer contracts COVID-19, they are removed from duty for either quarantine or hospitalization. Our local communities cannot afford reduced safety personnel staffing as we continue to navigate the ongoing pandemic.

We owe it to our law-enforcement officers to ensure they are adequately equipped to serve and protect our local communities. We must protect those who protect us by placing them on the list of those who will first receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Thank you for your service to Ohio and its cities and villages as Governor, and for your consideration of this urgent request.

Respectfully,

Mayor Mark Cegelka
Village of Glenwillow
President, Mayors Association of Ohio