400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

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Contact: Mike Donila Rylie McClurg

306-1177 cell 215-4579 office

705-1681 cell

Mayor Jacobs Issues Statement About CDC's New Isolation Guidance

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs made the following statement in response to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's new guidance that Americans who test positive for the coronavirus no longer need to stay home from work and school for five days.

"During his farewell address, President Eisenhower warned us to be alert to the "danger that public policy could itself become the captive of a scientific-technological elite."

Today's announcement from the CDC is just more evidence of how prescient "Ike" turned out to be. Sadly, during COVID, too many Americans were willing to surrender their freedom — secured thanks to the sacrifice of patriots throughout our history — in the name of "safety and security."

Now, we continue to learn that agencies like the NIH and CDC were not "following the science." No, they were fortifying their fiefdoms and increasing their budgets at the expense of our sacred rights and liberties. In other words, they were making it up as they went, and it was all about power.

For example, it turns out that no one knows where the "6 feet apart" social distancing guidelines came from. It also turns out that the policies requiring mandatory masking do virtually nothing to stop the spread of respiratory pathogens.

These forced policies were dangerous and worthless.

Shutting down our schools — ostensibly to protect the population LEAST at risk from the virus — ended up causing untold harm to our young people.

And, most disturbingly, we now know that instead of objectively investigating the origin of SARS-CoV-2, high-level government officials actively suppressed evidence that the virus may have been the result of a lab leak, probably because our own country has been funding dangerous gain-of-function research performed in adversarial nations. I pray that when the next crisis comes, Americans will remember what happens when we blindly follow the lead of "experts" and bureaucrats, and we will reject further assaults upon our liberty and our way of life."