NEWS from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

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SHELBY COUNTY MAYOR LEE HARRIS LAUNCHES NEW INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE PAID TIME OFF FOR EMPLOYEES TO GET COVID-19 VACCINE
This initiative continues efforts to increase vaccine uptick for Shelby County.

Shelby County, TN – Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris has issued an executive order for Shelby County Administration employees that gives them four hours of paid time off to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Research has found that workers are significantly more likely to get vaccinated if their employer provides paid time off to do so. This new order accomplishes that for Shelby County Administration employees. Also, this initiative aligns with President Joe Biden's push for all organizations, small and large, to give employees paid time off to get the vaccine.

Beginning on Monday, July 26, through Thursday, September 30 eligible employees may take up to four hours off with pay for each dose of the coronavirus vaccine. To be eligible, employees must work full-time for County Government Administration and give notice to the appropriate manager or supervisor. However, the order does not make proof of vaccination a condition of employment.

Mayor Lee Harris: "We know taking time off from work to get the vaccine can be a barrier for many. Paid time off to get vaccinated is the best solution for that problem. That is why we are taking this step to help our employees. This is an approach other organizations, regardless of size, can replicate and we hope they will."

The Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Treasury Department under the Biden administration have announced the availability of refundable tax credits under the American Rescue Plan of 2021 for some businesses and governments that allow employees to take time off with pay to get vaccinated.

(End of Release)