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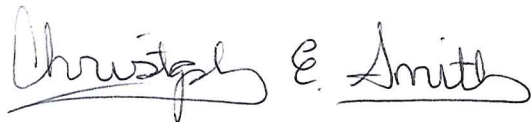
To Whom This May Concern:

COVID-19 has reshaped the world. Professionally, my institution, Kenyon College, has undertaken great and often complex efforts in partnership with Knox Public Health to safely operate during the pandemic. Personally, my family experienced a 9-month delay of my mother meeting her new granddaughter to ensure everyone remained healthy.

Earlier in my career, I was a public health advisor for CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. In that role I learned volumes about the scientific processes (including approval) of vaccines and their proven history of success. The CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) continues to be my most trusted source for immunization information. This global collective of scientists advises the CDC director on vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases. The ACIP supports the COVID-19 vaccine and its underlying science, and I am very excited to receive my two doses once I am eligible.

The COVID-19 vaccine means many things. At its core, the vaccine means a return to healthy life. As a trustee of Knox Community Hospital, to me the vaccine means protecting our frontline healthcare workers and the hospital's capacity/ infrastructure to provide medical care. As a member of the Licking and Knox Mental Health & Recovery Board, to me the vaccine means that barriers which may have prevented important addiction and counseling support services are removed. As a college administrator, to me the vaccine means a healthier campus community. As a family man, to me the vaccine means that my wife and daughter remain healthy.

The future appears hopeful with the development and deployment of the COVID-19 vaccine. I look forward to a world without face coverings and filled with bright smiles. I look forward to hosting family and friends. I look forward to once again enjoying many of the activities, hobbies, and passions that have been placed on hold during this pandemic.



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