"**The Needs of the Many Outweigh the Needs of the Few"**

Spock, *The Wrath of Khan*

Way back in 1905, the Supreme Court decided a case brought by citizens of Massachusetts, a state with a long history of battles fought over liberty, incensed by a mandatory smallpox vaccination requirement imposed through the Commonwealth.  Then, as today, individuals could not abide a perceived assault on a personal right enshrined in the Constitution of these United States of America.

The Supremes opined "Real liberty for all could not exist under the operation of a principle which recognizes the right of each individual person to use his own, whether in respect of his person or his property, regardless of the injury that may be done to others."

We solicited comments on the President's mandatory vaccination requirement for federal employees from members and the vehemence of some respondents reflect sentiments expressed in public media.  The vaccination requirement may be challenged but regardless of outcome, it is, today, an Executive Order issued by the head of the executive branch, our Boss, President Biden.

This week, we begin discussions with HUD on the implementation of the Executive Order.  Of course, we will bear in mind the divergent voices on this issue and will seek to address the potential consequences of implementing the EO.

We understand, fully, that we will not be able to completely satisfy the strongly held, conflicting demands of employees.  But, as always, we'll do our best.

*Dennis*

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