

A Sampling of Personal Experiences with Employer Mandates

(Many people are afraid to use their full names, because employers have told them they will lose their jobs if they speak publicly.)

Currently my employer is considering making the experimental COVID vaccine mandatory. I am a single mother and have worked at this company for 10 years. I have been an exceptional employee and worked "up through the ranks" and now can provide my daughter a "comfortable" lifestyle while not having to work two jobs. Due to my time with the company I may not be able to find a job that pays as well just starting out. I'm 46 years old raising a teenage daughter and I may have to start over. Employers should not be able to mandate this vaccine. I believe laws should put in place to penalize employers that are "shaming" employees that are declining this vaccine. I have told my employer that I do not feel comfortable AT THIS TIME taking this vaccine and that it should be my choice.

Thank you,

Nicole

Please do not share my name, but here is my story:

As a child, my abuser would sometimes press his hand over my mouth to keep me quiet. When masks were mandated, I purchased a couple and tried to wear one. I will never forget the first time I put one on. The panic attacks that I had spent a chunk of my adult life in therapy for immediately came flooding back to me. Mouth covered, heart races, tears form, and my body begins to shake and a panic attack ensues. Now, a year later, after trying to abide, I simply don't go out as much. I mentally can't afford to. I can't work. The mental toll is too much so why give back to an economy that is in turn hurting my ability to even function as a normal human being.

Name Withheld

I am a registered nurse in hospice. I refused a COVID test that was mandatory to see a patient at a skilled nursing facility. My boss had to assign another nurse. I am concerned I will lose my job if I continue to refuse.

Thank you for all you do,

Cassandra

I am a nurse. Prior to COVID the only place Drs and Nurses wore masks was in the operating room. Now we are all forced to wear them for 12 hour shifts. I have tested myself and every time I have to wear one, my normal heart rate of 70 goes up to 110 (normal is 60-100). My normal oxygenation of 99 goes down to 94. I have found this to be the same among co-workers. These are signs of oxygen deprivation. It is difficult to work with oxygen deprivation because you get headaches and cannot think clearly. But

caregiver and consider my job essential. I have not stopped working since the beginning of COVID-19 pandemic. But these mandates are taking their toll.

Maria

I am 60 years old. I have had pneumonia and wearing a mask makes me short of breath and dizzy but, in order to work as a substitute teacher I have to wear a mask. This has become hard for me to talk to students when I am teaching because I have to take frequent mask breaks or I get light headed.

Elizabeth

I am faculty at DSU. Everyone in every building is required to wear a mask. There are no exemptions. At this time, vaccines are not required. The second Intermountain makes a policy to require it like they have with other vaccines, the school will most likely follow.

Name Withheld

I am forced to wear a mask at work daily or risk being fired, much of my job is skilled labor it makes it very hard.

Alden

I lost my job. I even went to a Dr office to get an exemption. But he wouldn't give me one. Instead he want to put me on meds for my claustrophobia. I told him no. I can't have things on my face. I've been this way a small child after a traumatized experience. But what made me the most upset about the Dr saying no to me was that he very own Receptionist didn't even have a mask on. No were on her person did i see one. So I have been out of a job since November. It was a part time job but it kept food on our table!!!

Marji

My husband was able to go to work mask-free until Governor Herbert threatened to slap a \$10,000 fine on businesses if employers and employees did not wear masks.

Marguerite S