

Contact: Nicole Armendariz **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Phone: 262-548-7902 Date: Wednesday, March 31, 2021

## WAUKESHA COUNTY WILL NOT ISSUE LOCAL MASK ORDER AFTER WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT STRIKES DOWN MANDATE

(WAUKESHA) – On Wednesday, March 31, 2021, Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow announced that the county will not issue a local mask order after the Wisconsin Supreme Court overturned the statewide mask mandate.

"Our residents and businesses continue to make tremendous progress in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic," said County Executive Farrow. "More than a third of our population has now had at least one dose of vaccine, hospitalizations remain low, and our cases have dropped dramatically since the beginning of the year. With these improvements in mind, residents should be able to continue to make informed choices to protect themselves and their families from the virus without a government mandate."

Individuals are encouraged to continue to take precautions as the County continues to work toward a return to normal, to keep families safe and reverse the damage to the economy.

Most importantly, everyone who is eligible should get vaccinated as soon as possible to help bring the pandemic to an end. They should choose to follow all CDC guidelines, when necessary, to mitigate the spread of the virus. This includes mask wearing when social distancing is not possible.

Residents should remember that local municipalities and individual businesses have the ability to enact mask requirements within their geographic borders and facilities. These local requirements should be respected.

Waukesha County will continue to work with schools, community organizations and local businesses to encourage everyone to take preventative actions and mitigate the spread of the virus. More information about vaccination and other resources related to the COVID-19 pandemic is available at <a href="https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/covid19">www.waukeshacounty.gov/covid19</a>.

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