



Judge Grants Injunction Against Emergency Order Enforcement by Governor

Today, in Baker County Circuit Court, Judge Matt Shirtcliff entered a preliminary injunction against further enforcement of the Governor's Executive Orders relating to business and church closures as to the coronavirus pandemic. The judge refused the State's request to stay his order. The state has indicated that they will file an immediate appeal to the Supreme Court of Oregon. Kevin Mannix will address today's court decision in an afternoon Press Conference at the Holiday

Inn located in Wilsonville (25425 SW 95th Avenue, Wilsonville, Oregon 97070) at 2 p.m. this afternoon (May 18, 2020).

"On behalf of all Oregonians, especially those who wish to join in religious worship and those who wish to engage in businesses, I celebrate the judge's ruling because it upholds Oregon's laws regarding public health emergencies," said Kevin Mannix. "The Governor may issue guidelines and she may encourage Oregonians to be safe. She may not close down churches and businesses under pain of criminal misdemeanor charges. The law allows the Governor 28 days of strong powers to address a public health emergency but those 28 days have expired. If the Governor wishes to take steps beyond the law, she must convene the Legislative Assembly – the elected representatives of the people – to consider those proposals."

Mannix continued: "We Oregonians need to remember that each of the 50 states has adopted its own standards for how Governors handle public health emergencies. Many states have laws which are very expansive as to the powers of their Governors and have weak time limits. We Oregonians chose to give our Governor strong powers to deal with a public health emergency, but our laws set a 28 day time limit on the exercise of those powers. Oregon is special in terms of how we handle these issues."

The meeting room at the Holiday Inn is available for press to set up their equipment beginning at 1 p.m. Mr. Mannix will begin speaking at 2 p.m. to speak on the case and to answer any questions. The room is large enough to accommodate social distancing.