



September 13, 2021

When the COVID-19 pandemic first began, we didn't know what to expect. We thought there might be a few weeks of disruption, a handful of canceled events, and then things would get back to normal. As cases quickly rose and more industries faced disruptions, we still did not quite know what the future had in store.

We certainly did not think that 18 months later, more than 630,000 Americans would lose their lives, social distancing and mask policies would still be in effect, and more than 219 million people worldwide would be infected with this virus.

We were never prouder to be part of our industry than when UA members and MCAA contractors across the United States and Canada stepped up early on to build temporary hospitals in parking lots and hockey rinks, deliver wash stations to communities everywhere, and go the extra mile to truly protect the health of our nations. We never wavered in the face of COVID-19 because they understood our responsibility to our communities.

We know that our crafts are essential to protecting the collective health of, quite frankly, every single person in the United States and Canada. Now we have another tool to add to this fight.

Thanks to the research and development abilities made possible by our work building state-of-the-art facilities, we have three vaccines that are proven effective at combating this deadly virus. One of them has already received full FDA approval.

In the nine months since the first vaccines were administered, they are more than 90% effective at preventing hospitalization from COVID-19. Simply put, these vaccines work.

Thankfully, the end of this pandemic is now in sight. But it is our responsibility – each and every one of us – to do all that we can to protect ourselves, our families, and our communities.

It is our responsibility to protect the health of the nation.

It is our responsibility to protect the market share that we have all worked so hard to create.

It is our responsibility to get the vaccine.

In addition to the individual and community health imperative of vaccinations, we must comply with owner vaccination mandates on all our projects. It is for everyone's safety. This means that we must be willing to provide a workforce of fully vaccinated craftsmen and craftswomen to perform our work.

Together, we can defeat this deadly pandemic and get our lives back on the right track. We can take the steps necessary to protect not only ourselves and our families, but our jobsites, our fellow members and contractors, and our end users.

We are on the path to end this pandemic once and for all. All it takes is a simple shot.

Sincerely,



Mark McManus
UA General President



Armand Kilijian
MCAA President