DECLINING TO VACCINATE TODAY WITH COVID-19 VACCINE:

Why Are Our Staff Vaccinated Here at [redacted] Pediatrics? As your "Patient-Centered Medical Home", it is our responsibility as pediatricians to protect you. Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine (very effective and very safe) will establish excellent protection for your family and would drastically reduce the COVID-19 risks 4 weeks after completing the 2-dose schedule. This is why **36 of our staff (97%, Pediatricians, Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, RNs, and other clinical and office staff) have been fully vaccinated months ago**, and **we now don't have to worry about all of this**. ***Most of our staff's extended families (grandparents, spouses, sisters, brothers, children over 16, etc.) have also been vaccinated***. All have done well. **"Fully Vaccinate All, Wait 4 weeks, and Return to Life."**

THE CONSEQUENCES OF DECLINING OR DELAYING THE VACCINE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Declining or delays may result in YOUR death, or long-term or permanent health damage from COVID-19.** *30% of COVID-19 survivors are still having problems 6+ months later, even with milder cases, including neurologic and mental health problems, "COVID brain", memory, concentration & sleep problems, depression, prolonged pulmonary & cardiac problems, weakness, and fatigue, etc. … many of these never fully resolve.* ***It is unfortunate to be young and have preventable problems – especially if chronic****.*

2. **Declining or delays may result in being inadvertently responsible for the death, or long-term or permanent health damage, of OTHERS (friends, relatives, neighbors, and coworkers) from COVID-19**. *See the discussion above.*

3. **Even limited declination or delays *in the general population* will prolong the pandemic, slow us from quickly ending this continued partial shut-down**, saving our restaurants and small businesses, jobs, and **getting back to life without economic calamity.**

4. **Even limited declination or delays will slow full and safe reopening of schools and universities**. Many students have already effectively lost a year or more of learning, and some will never catch up, just give up or have resulting mental health challenges.

5. **Even limited declination or delays will slow full and safe reopening of churches and places of faith**. With no (or "virtual-only") church attendance for long durations, some will lose interest and never return to church.

6. **Even limited declination or delays will slow full return to safe unrestricted travel**, such as vacations, "road-trips", airlines, tours, cruises, **and attend sports, concerts, weddings, family reunions, summer camps, Scouts, and other public events**.

7. **Even limited declination or delays will slow full safe and unrestricted fun**, with friends and gatherings, sports, concerts, camps, large gatherings, and parties, and fully return to life as usual, without masks, social distancing, etc. (we are "DONE with this").

8 **Even limited declination or delays before the next more deadly and more contagious variants arrive may give you no time to vaccinate by the time they infect you** (Even if started 1st COVID shot today, it would take 5-7 weeks to reach adequate COVID-19 protection). *Example: In April 2021 Brazil had 2000-4000 COVID variant deaths/day, and many more with the variant in India..* ***Fortunately, the Pfizer vaccine appears excellent against all new variants so far seen. Having prior COVID disease does NOT protect you. This is a race to immunize before a 4th wave from another variant - we are currently way behind on immunizations.***

9. Even limited general public declination or delays will NOT enable us to achieve the high rates of vaccination needed to QUICKLY END THIS PANDEMIC. 70% will help us to slow it down, but potentially will not stop it before the next more contagious variant arrives in the US. Just slowing it down is not a realistic long-term option to quickly END the pandemic.

10. Declination or delays to vaccinate will negate a simple solution: "Fully Vaccinate All, Wait 4 weeks, and Return to Life."

☐ **I AM HEREBY DECLINING TO VACCINATE with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine today at [redacted], and am willing to accept the consequences of risking COVID-19 disease for myself, family, and community.**

Patient's name: _____, Date of birth: _____

Patient/Parent Signature: _____, Relationship: _____, Date: _____

☐ Already scheduled elsewhere: Where? _____, When? _____

---------- FOR OFFICE USE ONLY, BELOW ---------- *v8~5-8-21*

Patient/parent is unwilling to sign this declination of COVID-19 Vaccination (signed by staff member):

Signature: _____, Position: _____, Date: _____

SAMPLE