

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: PressRoom Nevada Health Response
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Meagan Werth Ranson
Cc:
Subject: FW: Convention Center 2nd dose

To Whom It May Concern:

I am submitting the following statement for upcoming COVID-19 Task Force meeting:

I am writing to let you know what an unfettered disaster it was trying to get the second dose of the covid vaccine at the Las Vegas Convention Center on 2/11/2021. Despite arriving more than half an hour early for my appointment, I had to wait in line for over three hours to get my vaccination. The vast majority of that time was spent outside, in the sun, where it was 70+ degrees out. A significant number of the people waiting in line were elderly, and I watched one woman pass out after about two hours of waiting.

I understand that this is a health crisis and vaccination schedules are new, but the utter inefficiency today was mind blowing. If there were only going to be 10 people available to give each vaccine (and 4-5 people checking people in), then strict limits should have been placed on appointment times (i.e. 50 people per half hour). Instead, thousands of people were stuck waiting for hours in the sun, in a line that must have stretched half a mile long. To make matters worse, there was no seating for anyone in line, other than the benches in front of the convention center (Which would require someone else to hold their spot in line for 3-4 hours first). The poor elderly woman in front of me was near tears with the exhaustion and pain of being on her feet that long.

I missed another very important appointment, just to remain in line and get this vaccine, but it is absurd that I had to do so, when that appointment was scheduled 3 hours after my vaccination appointment.

I have rarely witnessed such a grand display of inefficiency, and it was truly rage-inducing. I feel for the people who had afternoon appointments and had to presumably wait into the evening (or were sent home without their shots), and for the elderly, who were exhausted by the extensive waits.

A few suggested solutions would be: strict limits on the number of appointments per half hour, significantly more nurses to give vaccines, or additional locations for the second dose.

I look forward to a response.

Thank you,

Ashley Biehl