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CEASE AND DESIST

SENT VIA FAX TO 217.789.2109

May 27, 2020

Mayor James O. Langfelder
City of Springfield
800 East Monroe
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Mayor Langfelder,

Please be advised our firm represents numerous businesses within the City of Springfield. With each day that passes, I continue to read and memorialize numerous written articles, as well as take personal statements of private citizens, regarding the actions which the City of Springfield is taking against the hard-working business owners operating within the city. At this time on behalf of my clients, I am hereby putting the City of Springfield on notice to cease and desist with any further efforts to violate my client's civil rights.

It is abundantly clear the Sangamon County Health Department, which wields the supreme authority over business closures, has no objection to business owners safely reopening their doors. Whether you agree with their decisions or not is of no consequence, our legislature did not delegate your office any authority over such matters, and to the extent you interfere with the health departments lawful authority, my client's put you on notice to immediately discontinue such interference. To the extent you feel compelled to believe the Governor's

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executive order somehow supersedes the legislatures delegation of supreme authority to the health department, I would suggest you consider the fact that nowhere does any lawful authority exist for the City of Springfield to enforce such an order. While I am aware the Governor's Office has publicly threatened to withhold state and federal funding from local municipalities unless they cower to his overreaching executive orders, this veiled threat towards your good city is no legal defense to any gross infringement of my client's civil rights.

While at this time there is no federal litigation pending, should such become unfortunately necessary, please be advised we have received statements of persons who seemingly have direct knowledge, recently placing you at a local establishment called the Alamo, notwithstanding your public efforts to close our client's facilities. While I would hope this alleged fact would turn out not to be true, witness statements are seemingly quite convincing.

My client's respectfully ask you to step aside sir and leave issues of public health to the local health experts with the oversight of such authority having been placed with our judiciary.

Respectfully,

/s/ Thomas G. DeVore
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