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Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein Comments on Affordable Care Act Court Ruling

U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit declares individual mandate unconstitutional, laying the groundwork for the entire ACA to be voided

COLUMBUS, OH—Today, Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein issued the following statement expressing his concerns after a federal appeals court issued a 2-1 decision that declares the Affordable Care Act’s individual mandate unconstitutional. This decision sends the case back to the lower court judge, who has already made a previous ruling that all parts of the Affordable Care Act should be struck down.

City Attorney Klein noted that the lawsuit he initiated in 2018 to protect the Affordable Care Act, *City of Columbus v. Trump*, currently awaits a decision in the U.S. District Court of Maryland and is not directly impacted by this latest court decision.

“It should be troubling to all Americans who care about good, affordable, and quality healthcare coverage that this appeals court decided the individual mandate is unconstitutional. President Trump and Republicans got an early Christmas present with this ruling because it further damages the ACA, and threatens the future of protections for pre-existing conditions, Medicaid expansion, and the insurance market generally,” said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein. **“There’s nothing to celebrate here, but it does hasten the call for leaders in Washington to work together to ensure everyone has good, quality care.”**

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