



ZACH KLEIN

COLUMBUS CITY ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 8, 2020

Contact:

Faith Oltman, 419-366-9393

fboltman@columbus.gov

Columbus City Attorney's Office Secures Immediate Shutdown of Aftermath Nightclub

COLUMBUS – Today, Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein announced that his office has secured an immediate, temporary shutdown of Aftermath, a far-east-side nightclub that was the site of a 500-person event on Saturday.

“Last weekend’s indoor concert at Aftermath was in blatant disregard of COVID-19 health orders and social distancing best practices,” said Klein. “We are in the middle of a surge in coronavirus infections, yet the owners of Aftermath planned to continue hosting large-scale events at their venue, including this upcoming weekend. In the interest of community health, we secured an immediate shutdown of this property.”

Agents from the Ohio Investigative Unit documented that they witnessed multiple violations of the State’s health orders during Saturday’s event including, employees and patrons not wearing masks, lack of social distancing, and customers not seated while eating and/or drinking.

The City Attorney’s Office secured an *ex-parte* temporary restraining order that requires an immediate, temporary shutdown of Aftermath until further order from the court, expected on Thursday, December 17.

“We understand how challenging these times are for our small businesses and the overwhelming majority are doing their best to keep employees and customers safe,” said Klein. “We are open to working with folks to make sure that they’re following the rules and keeping their businesses going. It’s on all of us to do everything we can to reduce community spread and keep the Columbus community safe and healthy.”

The City Attorney’s Office has filed seven cases, three of which are near Ohio State’s off-campus area, to address establishments that have repeatedly failed to observe COVID-19 health orders.

****Editor’s note: A copy of the signed temporary restraining order is attached.***

###