

# ***COVID-19 SAFETY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, LIABILITY WAIVER, AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS***

**Read this entire document carefully before signing. It contains a surrender of certain legal rights.**

Thank you for your interest in attending 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference, an event held by Victory Institute (“Victory”), taking place from December 1 – 5, 2021 in the District of Columbia.

The health and safety of our staff and attendees is paramount. Given the outbreak and continued spread of COVID-19 across the country, we make every effort to protect all participants who engage in events held or sponsored by Victory. Please read this COVID-19 Safety Acknowledgement, Liability Waiver, and Release of Claims (the “Waiver”) carefully.

Your signature and acceptance of this Waiver is required before you will be permitted to attend 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference in person.

1. In light of the ongoing spread of COVID-19, individuals who fall within any of the categories below are not permitted to participate in 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference in person. Your signature and acceptance of this Waiver constitutes your acknowledgement that you do not fall into any of the following categories:
  - a. Individuals who currently or within the past fourteen (14) days have experienced any symptoms associated with COVID-19, which include fever, cough, and shortness of breath;
  - b. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated<sup>1</sup> and have traveled at any point in the past fourteen (14) days either [internationally or to a community in the U.S.](#) that has experienced or is experiencing sustained community spread of COVID-19;
  - c. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated and who believe that they may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19; or
  - d. Individuals who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are not yet cleared as non-contagious by state or local public health authorities.
  
2. The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has stated that COVID-19 spreads mainly between people who are in close contact with one another and through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes and, therefore, the CDC has recommended that people practice “social distancing” by remaining at least six (6) feet from other people, and wear face masks or cloth face coverings over the nose and mouth, during the COVID-19 outbreak. The CDC has further stated that older people, as well as people of all ages who have a severe underlying health condition (such as, for example, heart disease, lung disease, asthma, HIV, or diabetes) appear to be at a higher risk of developing a serious COVID-19 illness. Your signature and acceptance of this Waiver constitutes your acknowledgement that

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<sup>1</sup> A person is considered “fully vaccinated” 14 days after getting the last dose of a COVID-19 vaccine series (after the second dose of a two-dose series, or after one dose of a single-dose vaccine).

Victory has informed you of these CDC recommendations.

3. You acknowledge that your participation in 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference is entirely voluntary. Given the ongoing concerns about the COVID-19 outbreak, the risk of contracting COVID-19 or incurring other injury or illness (which could be serious or disabling) is always present and cannot be entirely eliminated. Further, while traveling to and attending 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference, you may not be able to practice “social distancing” and may be in close proximity with individuals who could potentially be infected with COVID-19. WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THESE RISKS, YOU AGREE TO ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF PERSONAL INJURY OR ILLNESS OR DEATH, INCLUDING RELATED TO COVID-19 CONTRACTED DURING THE TIME THAT YOU ARE PARTICIPATING IN 2021 INTERNATIONAL LGBTQ LEADERS CONFERENCE INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE RISK OF DAMAGES OR LOSSES CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE, FAULT OR CONDUCT OF ANY KIND BY VICTORY TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.
4. You understand that Victory is organizing 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference. Other individuals and organizations (independent providers) not associated or affiliated with Victory may also assist in various ways with 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference. You acknowledge that certain of these independent providers are not employees or agents of Victory, that Victory does not supervise or control these independent providers, and that Victory is not responsible for their conduct. In addition, 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference takes place at facilities and on premises not owned or controlled by Victory, and Victory neither oversees nor takes responsibility for any aspect or condition of these independent facilities or premises.
5. You understand that Victory reserves the right to terminate your participation in 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference at any point if, in Victory’s discretion, you present a safety or behavioral issue, medical risk, or other concern.
6. You understand that you will need to complete and submit a COVID-19 questionnaire prior to 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference and that your attendance is contingent upon your having received the COVID-19 vaccination,<sup>2 3</sup> not having any COVID-19 symptoms, and not having knowledge of exposure to anyone who recently tested positive for the virus. You certify that you will respond honestly about any symptoms and exposure, and will provide proof of vaccination if asked.

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<sup>2</sup> Excluding participants who do not receive the vaccine due to either medical conditions for which the vaccine is contraindicated or sincerely held religious beliefs. If you require exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement based upon your medical condition or sincerely-held religious belief, you must notify Victory staff at [support@victoryinstitute.org](mailto:support@victoryinstitute.org).

<sup>3</sup> To be considered to have received the COVID-19 vaccination, you must have received the last dose of a COVID-19 vaccine series (the second dose of a two-dose series, or one dose of a single-dose vaccine) at least 14 days prior to attending 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference.

7. You understand that Victory and/or the venue at which 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference is held may require attendees to adhere to social distancing and/or wear face masks or cloth face coverings during 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference. Your signature and acceptance of this Waiver constitutes your agreement to abide by any social distancing and/or face mask requirements during 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference, which may be amended from time to time, in Victory's sole discretion.
8. You further understand that your health and safety is your responsibility and that you are free at any time to refuse, and should refuse, to do anything for Victory that you are not comfortable with or that may pose a hazard to the health or safety of you or anyone else. In consideration of the opportunity afforded you to participate in 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference, you, on behalf of yourself and, to the extent permitted law, on behalf of your spouse, heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, and other persons or entities acting or purporting to act on your behalf, hereby generally and completely release, acquit, and forever discharge Victory and its current and former directors, officers, employees, agents, successors, affiliates, assigns, sponsors, donors, volunteers and representatives (collectively, the "Released Parties") of and from any and all claims, liabilities, and obligations, both known and unknown, that arise out of or are in any way related to your participation in 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference. This Waiver supersedes and replaces any prior or contemporaneous discussions and agreements, whether written or oral, between the Parties with respect to the subject of this Waiver.
9. You further understand that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, this Waiver includes any and all claims caused or alleged to be caused, in whole or in part, by the negligence of the Released Parties, and includes claims for personal injury, property damage, wrongful death, breach of contract or otherwise. I agree that the substantive laws of the District of Columbia (but not any law that would apply the laws of another jurisdiction) govern this agreement and all other aspects of my relationship with the Released Parties related to 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference and this Waiver and that any mediation, suit, or proceeding must be filed or entered into in the District of Columbia. Any portion of this Waiver deemed unlawful or unenforceable shall be restated in accordance with applicable law to best reflect the intent of the parties at the time of entering into this agreement and shall not affect the remaining provisions which shall continue in full force and effect.
10. You understand that, by signing this Waiver, you agree to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (symptoms typically include fever, cough, and shortness of breath) and, if you experience symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days after attending 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference, will notify Victory staff at support@victoryinstitute.org.

***I hereby represent and warrant that I have authority to execute this Waiver. In the event of any misrepresentation or breach of this warranty, I agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Released Parties from and against any and all liabilities, claims, losses, damages, demands, rights of action or causes of action arising out of or resulting from therefrom, or connection therewith.***

*I have read this COVID-19 Safety Acknowledgement, Liability Waiver, and Release of Claims, understand that I am giving up substantial rights by signing it, and have signed it freely and without any inducement or assurance of any nature.*

*I hereby acknowledge that my participation in 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference is contingent on submission of this signed document; that I will obey all 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference participation rules; that I am fully capable of participating without causing harm to myself or others; and that I am voluntarily traveling to and from 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference and participating in it with knowledge of the risks described herein. I hereby assume any and all such risks (both known and unknown) and assume any and all liabilities associated with any property damage or theft, personal injury, illness, disability, death, loss, claim, liability or expense of any kind or nature which may arise out of, result from, or in connection with my travel to and from 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference or my participation in the it.*

*I hereby fully and forever waive, renounce, release, and discharge, all claims, losses, damages, demands, rights of action or causes of action, present or future, known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, of any kind or nature against Victory and its affiliated organizations, their officers, directors, employees, representatives, contractors, agents, volunteers, sponsors, and all other persons or entities associated with them, and their heirs, estates, successors and assigns (“Released Parties”) arising out of, resulting from, or connection with my travel to and from 2021 International LGBTQ Leaders Conference or my participation in it, including the possibility of contracting COVID-19.*

**I FURTHER REPRESENT AND WARRANT THAT I AM EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS DOCUMENT PRIOR TO SIGNING IT, AND UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS, INCLUDING THAT IT IS A WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AND AM AUTHORIZED TO GRANT THE PERMISSIONS SET FORTH HEREIN.**

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_