

August 18, 2020

Dear Board of Supervisors

Who in these chambers this morning, the decision makers, is experiencing the financial plight we as small business owners are facing on a daily basis? We don't have to lay out the numbers for you, because you know. We don't have to tell you that with what we've been handed, we're merely keeping the doors open, with what little customer base we have, to simply pay employees, pay utilities and pay rent, never knowing if or when we're going to be forced to close again. And we're not on the watch list!

We have masked. We have isolated. We have followed your protocol. And yet we still continue to have the life squeezed out of us.

The self employed sector of this community is a major part of your backbone, YOUR PAYCHECK and yet you all have the control over what happens next. Or if we're even "allowed" to operate. And we're not on the watch list!

The self employed are never guaranteed a paycheck. Our customer base and hard work is our paycheck. We knew going into business what we signed up for, what it would take, how much we had to sell and what we had to achieve in sales to turn a profit. To make a "living". We are not making a living. We're going backwards. We're in debt. Because 75 % of our operating real estate has been taken away. And we're not on the watch list!

It personally cost us \$30,000.00 to close down under state mandate in March. We will not, nor are we able to take that hit again.

October is quickly approaching. Restaurants salons and gyms cannot operate strictly outdoors in the winter. Period.

So we have a decision to make. Will we even be here in October? We do not have that answer.

Kimarie Richardson

Roley Tibbetts

The Office Bar and Bistro