



DANIELLA LEVINE CAVA
MAYOR
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

December 21, 2021

State Surgeon General Dr. Joseph A. Ladapo
Florida Health
4052 Bald Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Dr. Ladapo,

As our country and community confront the recent rapid rise of the Omicron variant, we are doing everything possible in Miami-Dade County to combat this latest surge and protect lives and livelihoods.

We have come too far, and have made too much progress, to let our guard down now, and we are using every tool in our toolkit to keep residents and visitors safe, particularly during the holiday season. We are continuing to make vaccination and the booster shots widely available; offering testing at nearly 30 locations Countywide; requiring hospitals to provide daily COVID reporting and sequencing and sampling wastewater for variants; and working to expand access to the latest treatment options.

Like other parts of the state, we are now facing an urgent shortage of monoclonal antibody treatment. We understand the state Department of Health is about to receive an additional shipment of monoclonal antibody supplies, and given Miami-Dade is the epicenter of the spread of Omicron with some of the highest positivity in the state, we urge you to direct all possible resources to our County to ensure we can provide this life-saving treatment to our residents. We also asked the federal government to allocate additional monoclonal antibody resources to Florida as swiftly as possible. Similarly, as President Biden has committed to make 500 million at-home tests available to Americans in January, we ask that all possible tests be directed to Miami-Dade County once they are available as we do everything we can to meet the growing demand for testing in our community.

At every step of this pandemic, we have worked to lead the way in COVID preparation and protection to keep our millions of residents and visitors safe. We successfully beat back the Delta variant, and by taking all possible mitigation measures now to protect our community – vaccination, testing, masking around large crowds, and treatment – I know we can fight the spread this holiday season in Miami-Dade and across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava".