



'Crime against humanity?' Group sues Ohio over its pandemic relief efforts



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The Blade

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Calling the coronavirus pandemic “the greatest fraud ever perpetrated on the American public,” a new group called Ohio Stands Up! is seeking a federal court order to invalidate Gov. Mike DeWine’s efforts to address the virus blamed for killing more than 180,000 Americans.

A news release the group sent out Tuesday said it is determined “to restore the Constitutional rights that have been stripped away by the State of Ohio’s unjustified actions regarding COVID-19.”

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That claim has been refuted by countless medical professionals.



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“We believe that the response to COVID-19 has been the greatest fraud ever perpetrated on the American public,” one of its two attorneys, Thomas Renz, of Fremont, said. “The objective of this legal action is to force the state to honor the Constitution and to stop the lies, manipulation and fear-mongering intentionally being promoted by public health officials and elected officials.”

The other attorney, Robert Gargas, of Lorain, said the state “has consistently lied to and manipulated its citizens from the earliest stages of this pandemic.”

“We insist that this nonsense end, our rights be restored, and that the actual truth be shared,” he said.

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Mr. Renz also called the state's response to the pandemic a "crime against humanity."

Their [56-page lawsuit](#) was filed in U.S. District Court in Toledo. It names the state of Ohio, Mr. DeWine, and Lance Himes as defendants. Mr. Himes became Ohio's interim state health director after Dr. Amy Acton resigned.

Governor DeWine and others in his administration have repeatedly denied such claims, emphatically stating that the novel coronavirus pandemic that began gripping the world in late 2019 is a serious, one-of-a-kind killer that requires public trust and cooperation in scientists, including public health experts.

Coronaviruses have existed for years. But this particular one has no cure. It has infected six million Americans, and — within months — become the No. 3 source of death in the United States.



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But the group behind this lawsuit claims 94 percent of the deaths attributed to the virus have been from people with other serious illnesses.

"The entire U.S. economy was shut down based on fraudulent models that predicted 2.2 million American deaths," Mr. Renz

Ohioans. As a result, millions of Ohioans are suffering financially, physically, and mentally.”

The group said it has raised roughly \$34,000 in donations from Ohio citizens to fund its effort.

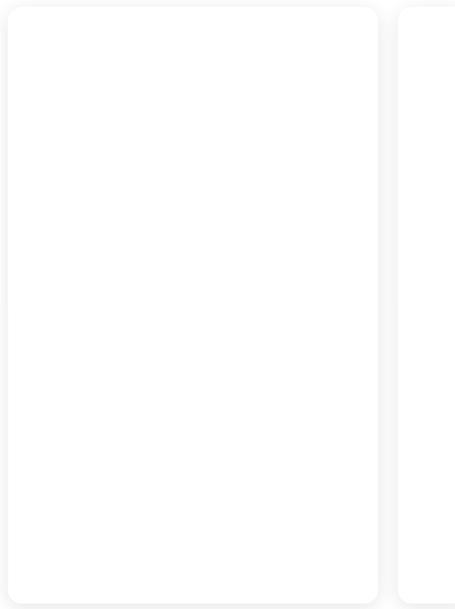
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