

Art Van Furniture

[REDACTED]

Tue 3/17/2020 11:51 AM

To: Mayor <mayor@cityofwarren.org>

Hello Mayor Fouts,

I am an employee of Art Van Furniture, who is still making employees come into the office even though there are more than 10 people. They are still keeping stores open even through the coronavirus, and only allowing one sick day. We are not being helped by TH Lee, our holding company. They are even restricting vacation time, and forcing office employees to work on sales floors. I am very worried about contracting the corona virus and TH Lee/Art Van is not doing anything to address this situation, caring only about the bankruptcy and receiving the most money back that they can. We are almost being held hostage with pay being collateral.

Thank you.

Concerned Art Van employee

[REDACTED]
Tue 3/17/2020 9:29 AM

To: Mayor <mayor@cityofwarren.org>

Hello Mr Mayor,

My name is [REDACTED]. I'm a concerned Art van employee in the Warren corporate office. I'm writing this letter to address my concerns about Art van's ongoing mistreatment of it's employees in the face of Covid-19. At a time when other companies with offices in warren such as GM are shooting down to prevent the spread of this ongoing pandemic, Art van is stripping it's employees of there sick time down to one day, without a doctors note, for the remainder of there employment. They're being internally vague about vacation time and if they will honor it. Last week multiple people were not allowed to work from home and as a result had to bring their kids to work with them. Leadership is resilient in it's efforts to create fear saying that if employees don't go work in stores instead of there normal offices they will be fired for cause and not eligible for unemployment. Threats are also being handed down from management in attempts to make people resign.

I'm not sure if your office can do anything, but I wanted to take the time to make you aware of the situation. I personally have appreciated your involvement and intervention in this matter.

Best,
[REDACTED]

Your desecration in sharing my name with my employer is greatly appreciated.

Emergency closure

[REDACTED]
Mon 3/16/2020 2:56 PM

To: Mayor <mayor@cityofwarren.org>

Any plans for an emergency closure of ArtVan due to the already dangerous exposure from overwhelming crowds these last couple weeks?

On behalf of hundreds of employees from ArtVan Furniture Warren location.
[REDACTED]

NOTICE:

The content of this email is for discussion purposes only and does not create a legally binding agreement or enforceable obligation in the absence of a written contract signed by all parties. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual to whom it is addressed. If you are not the named addressee, you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this email. Please notify the sender immediately by email if you have received this email by mistake and delete this email from your system. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited.

Thank you for your cooperation.

ART VAN 2020

From: (EMAIL)

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Re: Rochester - Hello Mayor Fouts, I hope you and your staff are doing well and are healthy during these trying times. Below, please see the email I sent to the Free Press this morning. Unbelievable to me...not sure if you knew this or there's any input you can offer to this circumstance. Thank you.

Hi Amy, I just read your article regarding the effects of this virus on MI businesses. I am proud to say the company I work for has taken and is taking strong steps to limit contact, spreading of the virus, etc. while communicating very effectively to all, from the very top levels of management on down. A company which I believe is acting incredibly irresponsibly is Art Van. I know individuals whom work in the corporate offices, were given their 60 day layoff notices (WARN Act), have zero work to do, and yet are being required to show up at work - and, literally sit there. In my opinion, this is both ridiculous and socially irresponsible given the seriousness of this virus - the opposite direction communicated to us by our government and medical experts. I tried calling the State, without success. Is there a way you/The Freep can "get after" or pressure Art Van to stop this practice? Apparently, senior management has said to work at home where possible, but mid-level managers are not following this direction. Thank you, for your time.

From: (EMAIL)

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Re: Hello Mr Mayor, I'm a concerned Art van employee in the Warren corporate office. I'm writing this letter to address my concerns about Art van's ongoing mistreatment of it's employees in the face of Covid-19. At a time when other companies with offices in warren such as GM are shooting down to prevent the spread of this ongoing pandemic, Art van is stripping it's employees of there sick time down to one day, without a doctors note, for the remainder of there employment. They're being internally vague about vacation time and if they will honor it. Last week multiple people were not allowed to work from home and as a result had to bring their kids to work with them. Leadership is resilient in it's efforts to create fear saying that if employees don't go work in stores instead of there normal offices they will be fired for cause and not eligible for unemployment. Threats are also being handed down from management in attempts to make people resign. I'm not sure if your office can do anything, but I wanted to take the time to make you aware of the situation. I personally have appreciated your involvement and intervention in this matter. **Your desecration in sharing my name with my employer is greatly appreciated.** (Gail)

From: Art Van Employee

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Re: Lives in Detroit - She works at the Art Van in Warren and is not happy about how Art Van is treating them regarding the virus. She said that they are not supplying employees with gloves, masks, or hand sanitizer. They are not enacting distancing protocol. They are also threatening to fire the employees if they call in sick for more than one day without a doctor's note. (Tiff)

From: she is an employee at Art Van afraid to give any other info

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Re: She indicated that it is very unsafe working at Art Van. Customers coming in coughing and sneezing. But if they take time off more than one day without a doctors note they will be fired. They are NOT allowed to use vacation days either. But if they find out she called she will also be fired. (Gail)

From: Art Van Employee (REMAIN ANONYMOUS)

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Re: works at the Art Van @ 14 and mound – Art Van is not doing anything to protect against this virus. No soap, empty hand sanitizers, nothing to wipe down their equipment. They were even told to bring in their own toilet paper. (Marina) **NOTE: WANTS TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS BECAUSE HE COULD LOOSE HIS JOB**