



Department of  
**Health**

**Timeline of findings and actions to date by State  
of Tennessee – Shelby County Health  
Department COVID-19 Vaccine Wastage  
Investigation**

The following outline describes events discovered during the Tennessee Department of Health's investigation of COVID-19 vaccine wastage by the Shelby County Health Department. All dates are 2021 and all times are Central time.

**Wednesday, Jan. 27** – TEMA requests 26 FEMA staff members for Memphis

**Monday, Feb. 1** – TDH and Shelby County Health Department schedule strategic planning session for Feb. 5.

**Tuesday, Feb. 2** – FEMA team lead onsite in Shelby County to support staffing

**Wednesday, Feb. 3** – FEMA staff on site

**Wednesday, Feb. 3** – Thursday, Feb. 4 – FEMA site visit including Region 4 FEMA Administrator Gracia Szczech at vaccine site

**Friday, Feb. 5** – TDH and SCHD Strategic Planning Session held

**Friday, Feb. 19, 10 a.m.** – SCHD Director Alisa Haushalter notified TDH Chief Medical Officer Tim Jones of 1,315 (1,578\*) expired doses of vaccine

**Friday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m.** – TDH/Unified Command Group team arrives onsite at SCHD

**Friday, Feb. 19, 9 p.m.** – TDH confirms 1,578 expired vaccine doses and counts 51,480 doses in inventory

**Saturday, Feb. 20, 11 a.m.** – State team departs SCHD after two-hour meeting

**Sunday, Feb. 21** – Tennessee Health Commissioner Lisa Piercey requests onsite assistance from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention vaccine team

**Monday, Feb. 22, 1 p.m.** – Embedded TDH team arrives onsite. This team remains at SCHD.

**Monday, Feb. 22** – Onsite inventory physically managed by TDH pharmacist

**Monday, Feb. 22** – TDH team learns of additional 840 expired doses not disclosed by SCHD on Feb. 19

\*All calculations using FDA-recommended six doses/vial for Pfizer

\*\*Moderna product (all other references are to Pfizer product)



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**Tuesday, Feb. 23** – Onsite inventory physically managed by TDH pharmacist

**Tuesday, Feb. 23** – TDH team finds 64\*\* unused doses and 12 unaccounted doses wasted after Feb. 23 vaccination event

**Wednesday, Feb. 24** – Onsite inventory physically managed by TDH pharmacist

**Wednesday, Feb. 24, 10 a.m.** – Transfer of authority for all vaccine management assigned to City of Memphis

**Wednesday, Feb. 24** – Onsite inventory moved by TDH to Regional One (Pfizer) and Poplar Healthcare (Moderna)

**Wednesday, Feb. 24** – Digital data loggers and transport coolers for vaccine tracking and storage flown from Smyrna and Chattanooga to Memphis

**Thursday, Feb. 25, 8 a.m.** – City of Memphis begins assignment and transport of vaccine to Points of Dispensing countywide

**Thursday, Feb. 25** – Purchased/installed refrigeration unit in Regional One pharmacy exclusively for vaccine storage

**Thursday, Feb. 25** – Onsite inventory moved by TDH to Regional One (Pfizer) and Poplar Healthcare (Moderna)

**Thursday, Feb. 25** – TDH team finds 18 unused doses wasted after vaccination event, unknown date (possibly Feb. 22)

**Thursday, Feb. 25** – Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris notifies Piercey of Appling site incident of children being vaccinated on Feb. 3

**Thursday, Feb. 25** – Harris notifies Piercey of Pipkin site incident of potential vaccine theft on Feb. 3

**Thursday, Feb. 25** – TDH general counsel notifies Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding potential theft

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**Timeline of notable events of mismanagement**

February 3	Expiration of 1,056 doses
February 3	Two children inappropriately vaccinated at Appling site; no report to state or federal partners
February 3	Volunteer suspected of stealing multiple doses at Pipkin site; no report to state or federal partners or authorities
February 9	Expiration of 198 doses
February 10	Expiration of 72 doses
February 12	Expiration of 84 doses
February 14	Expiration of 90 doses
Unknown date	Expiration of 78 doses
February 15	Expiration of 840 doses
Unknown date	Wastage of 18 unused doses
February 23	Wastage of 64 (plus 12) unused doses

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