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by [21st Century Wire](#)

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"This is the moment we've all been waiting for," New York Firefighters Union boss Andrew Ansbro announced during an [early morning briefing today](#) for the media. *Watch:*

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Though the number of NYC fire houses that may shutter beginning today is still unknown, the number could reach into the 'dozens' according to multiple media reports. Ansbro added:

"Every time any single company is out of service, the response time in that area is affected," he explained. "If this company was out of service and one of you were to drop of a heart attack right now, if they were in service, they'd

be here in a minute. If they were out of service, another firehouse in the area has to get here. Your response time to your heart attack is affected by this company being out of service. Our system is a web where we're constantly picking up slack for other companies, based on their responses."

As Mayor Bill De Blasio's heavy-handed [COVID-19 vaccine mandate](#) officially goes into effect today for NYC's 378,000 city employees, as many as 10,000 workers have either [outright resisted or plan to stage a 'sick-out'](#) this week.

It was de Blasio who early on in the city's vaccine rollout could be seen at press conferences pushing the corporate jobs, and even while feasting on a greasy burger and fries.

Now, his insistence that his city's workforce, made up of thousands of firefighters and other first responders, should submit to the vaccine or be docked pay, could cripple The Big Apple's ability to respond to all kinds of emergencies as the winter and holiday season approaches.

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