

# MAURY STRAUSS DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC LECTURE

Presented by the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC



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## *Reconciling Privacy and Accountability: the Context of COVID-19*

The global pandemic has spawned concern in the media about the fate of privacy. Many Americans are being told to stay at home or wear masks in shops, schools and workplaces. We are asked to complete online symptom-checking surveys daily. We are told to isolate depending on the results of a COVID-19 test and to disclose the names of persons with whom we have had close contact. What if an individual doesn't want to do these things, or believes they overly restrict important freedoms? Some say that the new expectations and accountability requirements violate privacies and private choices. Indeed, the new restrictions and mandates do, at least on the surface, go against the grain of a prevalent perspective of "personal lives" that are appropriately private; that our bodies, identities and personal information, belong to us and that we can decide what to do with them. This seminar will explore how to reconcile accountability for health with strong privacy values.

THURSDAY, DEC. 3 at 5:30 p.m.

This virtual lecture will be webcast live at [fbri.vtc.vt.edu/live-webcast](https://fbri.vtc.vt.edu/live-webcast). Attendees can also register through our website to access a Zoom link for this presentation.



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