



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

CHAMBERS OF  
REBECCA R. PALLMEYER  
CHIEF JUDGE

312-435-5600

April 11, 2023

Dear friends and family of the U. S. District Court:

Yesterday, April 10, 2023, President Biden signed a resolution that formally declares the end of the COVID-19 national emergency. I'm writing today to let you know that I'll no longer be notifying you of any individual cases of COVID-19 infection in the building.

(I await the noises of celebration from those of you who found the letters annoying. No, I will not be collecting the letters for publication in book form.)

At the risk of sounding more like Chief Mom than Chief Judge, let me say that I am genuinely proud of this Court. I'm proud of the wonderful job we have done in limiting the spread of COVID within the Courthouse and continuing our work here without interruption. There are a variety of reasons for this, but most of them relate to your commitment and courtesy--your cooperation for months and months with vaccination, masking, distancing, and remote work when necessary.

I know you understand that although the formal emergency is over, the virus remains alive. You also understand the need to take any symptoms seriously: regardless of the cause, if you have symptoms, you should stay away. Get a COVID test (and let persons in contact with you know if the results are positive). Take sick leave when you need it, and if you are well enough to work remotely, you may be able to do that with approval from your supervisor.

Best wishes for a happy spring season, and good health to all of you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca R. Pallmeyer".

Rebecca R. Pallmeyer  
Chief District Judge  
Chair, Dirksen Courthouse Building Security  
Committee