

Court Information Release



Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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Court Welcomes District Judge Jeffrey I. Cummings in Ceremonial Investiture

Chicago, Ill. – On March 1, 2024, U.S. District Judge Jeffrey I. Cummings was sworn in as a district judge at a ceremonial investiture.

“We are thrilled to welcome Judge Cummings to his new role as a District Judge of our Court,” said Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer. “He has served this court well as a Magistrate Judge for the last four years and has thirty-years of wide-ranging litigation experience prior to his joining the bench.”

Chief Judge Pallmeyer welcomed guests. The Honorable Ann Claire Williams (ret.) made the motion to administer the Oath of Office, and Judge Pallmeyer administered the Oath.

Judge Cummings earned his undergraduate degree from Michigan State University in 1984 and his law degree from Northwestern University School of Law in 1987. From 1987 to 1989, he clerked for then-District Judge Ann Claire Williams (ret.) in the Northern District of Illinois. Upon completion of his clerkship, he joined the firm of Miner Barnhill & Galland, PC. He became a partner in 1995 and practiced with the firm until January 2019, when he was appointed a United States Magistrate Judge in the Northern District of Illinois. From 1995 to 2019, Judge Cummings served as an administrative hearing officer with the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations. He also served as a hearing officer for the Chicago Police Board from 2016 to 2019.

On January 18, 2023, President Joe Biden announced his intent to nominate Judge Cummings to serve as a United States District Judge, and on January 31, 2023, his nomination was sent to the Senate. On September 12, 2023, he was confirmed by the Senate. Judge Cummings fills the seat that was created when Judge Robert Dow, Jr. was appointed counselor to U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Roberts.





Photos by Jim Slonoff

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