

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF COVID-19 VACCINATIONS)	ORDER RESCINDING
FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE SUPREME COURT)	VACCINATION
)	REQUIREMENTS
)	
)	NO. 25700-B-701

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee proclaimed a state of emergency due to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak in Washington; and on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak across the United States; and on February 24, 2021 President Biden continued the national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2021, the Governor issued a proclamation requiring all workers at designated state agencies to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, this court has the authority to take actions that are reasonably necessary for the efficient administration of justice and the fulfillment of its constitutional duties; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2021, this court issued Order 25700-B-669 requiring all workers at the Supreme Court to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and directing the State Court Administrator to adopt and implement similar requirements for the Administrative Office of the Courts workers and strongly encouraging all other courts, agencies, and entities in the judicial branch to adopt and implement similar requirements for their workers; and

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2022 the Governor terminated the state of emergency in Washington and rescinded the vaccination requirements issued under executive branch authority, and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2023 the President signed a congressional resolution ending the national emergency due the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

The vaccination requirements for Supreme Court workers, the directive to the State Court Administrator to adopt and implement similar requirements for Administrative Office of the Courts workers, and the strong encouragement to all other courts, agencies, and entities in the judicial branch to adopt and implement similar requirements for their workers are rescinded and Order 25700-B-669 is terminated effective at 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2023.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 4th day of May, 2023.


CHIEF JUSTICE