

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

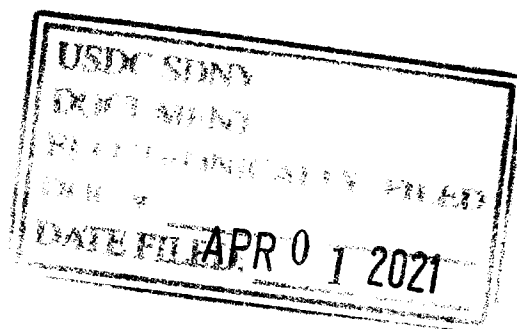
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CHANDRA CATES, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

THE TRUSTEES OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK,

Defendant.
----- x



ORDER

16 Civ. 6524 (GBD) (SDA)

GEORGE B. DANIELS, United States District Judge:

Plaintiffs' request that the Court order Defendant to submit *in camera* the current and anticipated vaccination status of each witness seeking to avoid in-person testimony and the particular reasons that he or she would prefer not to attend or would be uncomfortable testifying in person, (ECF No. 428), is DENIED.

The COVID-19 pandemic itself does not alone constitute "good cause" or "compelling circumstances" to allow witnesses to testify remotely rather than personally in court. Fed. R. Civ. P. 43. All witnesses designated to testify at trial, who are within the subpoena power of this Court, must testify in-person unless the parties agree otherwise, or the Court finds good cause in compelling circumstances to permit a particular witness to testify by contemporaneous transmission from a different location.

The Clerk of Court is directed to close the motion accordingly.

Dated: New York, New York
April 1, 2021

SO ORDERED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George B. Daniels".

GEORGE B. DANIELS
United States District Judge