

# VILLAGE OF BUFFALO GROVE

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**Beverly Sussman**  
Village President  
847-459-2525

April 22, 2020

*VIA EMAIL*

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle

Re: Support of Resolution to Share Addresses for Emergencies  
(SAFE) with First Responders

Dear President Preckwinkle,

On behalf of the Village of Buffalo Grove and our first responders, I would like to pledge our community's full support of a Resolution to Share Addresses for Emergencies (SAFE) with First Responders. Our Village, which spans Cook and Lake counties, has been working tirelessly to obtain address information of confirmed COVID-19 positive patients, to be maintained as Private Health Information (PHI) in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and in accordance with guidance published by the Department of Health and Human Services, Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Attorney General.

To date, the Village has already sustained suspected or confirmed exposure to COVID-19 positive patients by 10 of our first responders, resulting in quarantines that threaten the provision of services to our community. As the pandemic carries on and supplies of personal protective equipment remain scarce, now is the time for the Cook County Board of Commissioners to act affirmatively in passing this resolution. Opponents to this measure have publicly stated that, by disclosing COVID-19 positive locations, a "false sense of security" will be created for first responders. I can assure you that our emergency medical and law enforcement professionals bear no false sense of security in this pandemic. They simply seek available data to better protect themselves, and the public, from this deadly virus.

We appreciate your support of this measure and ask that you vote to approve the resolution at the April 23 Board of Commissioners meeting. My best wishes to you for health and well-being during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beverly Sussman".

Beverly Sussman  
Village President  
Village of Buffalo Grove