

CHAMBERS OF REBECCA R. PALLMEYER UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS 219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

312-435-5600

January 19, 2022

Dear Roszkowski Courthouse Occupants:

An individual who was last in the Roszkowski Courthouse on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, has tested positive for COVID-19 and was on the first floor. This individual was wearing a face covering and maintaining appropriate distancing while in the building. Other persons who had direct contact with this individual have been notified, and the General Services Administration will clean the impacted areas.

It's not surprising that we are seeing continued transmission of COVID-19. The good news is that fully-vaccinated individuals are reporting only mild or relatively brief symptoms. As a reminder: when a vaccinated person tests positive, we should not draw the conclusion that "vaccines don't work." We should instead recognize that vaccines are protecting persons from serious illness and hospitalization. Omicron is particularly contagious, but the steps we are taking—vaccinations, boosters, hand-washing, masks, and social distancing—do make a difference, and have enabled us to keep the wheels of justice turning despite a public health challenge.

Yours truly,

Rebecca R. Pallmever

Chief District Judge Chair, Dirksen Courthouse Building Security Committee