

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS 219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

CHAMBERS OF REBECCA R. PALLMEYER

312-435-5600

January 20, 2022

Dear Courthouse Occupants:

Two individuals who were recently in our Dirksen Courthouse have tested positive for COVID-19:

The first individual was last in the courthouse on Friday, January 14, and was on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th floors of the courthouse.

The second of these individuals was last in the courthouse on Tuesday, January 18, and was on the 15th floor of the courthouse.

There are hopeful signs that we are on the downside of the Omicron peak. But the numbers are still pretty scary, so keep up the good work: maintain social distance, wear a mask when in any public setting, wash your hands frequently, and sign up for a booster if you have not already done so. If you get symptoms, get a test. Rapid tests are available from the government (here's a link: <u>https://special.usps.com/testkits)</u>. The most accurate tests are the PCR tests, including those conducted by SHIELD Illinois. Since Wednesday, January 12, and continuing on business days from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., we have offered SHIELD (saliva-based) testing is to the public (including all staff) in our lobby, at no charge. I have been tested there twice myself—very smooth operation! Here is a link to the <u>SHIELD portal</u>, should you want to sign up for a test. Thank you again.

Yours truly,

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Rebecca R. Pallmeyer Chief District Judge Chair, Dirksen Courthouse Building Security Committee