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

CHAMBERS OF REBECCA R PALLMEYER CHIEF JUDGE 312-435-5600

October 20, 2021

Dear Dirksen Courthouse:

I have learned about another employee/contractor who has tested positive for COVID-19. I understand this individual was last in the Dirksen Courthouse on Monday, October 18, 2021, and tested positive yesterday. The employee/contractor was on the 27th floor of the Courthouse, and no other floors; wore a face covering; and maintained appropriate distancing while in the Courthouse. Individuals who had direct contact with this person have been notified, and the General Services Administration will clean the impacted areas.

Most of you are already vaccinated. But all of us must continue to adhere to all protective measures: masks, social-distancing, and handwashing. If you are not yet vaccinated, please reconsider. As you know, the vaccine protects you well. It also protects those you have contact with who may have medical vulnerabilities. And it protects all of us by blunting the opportunity for the virus to mutate into more aggressive or contagious forms. If you haven't taken this step, please do so now.

Yours truly,

Rebecca R. Pallmeyer

Chief Judge

Chair, Dirksen Courthouse Building Security Committee