

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 22, 2020

Dear Dirksen Courthouse Occupants:

I learned earlier today that an employee who works on the 16th floor of the Dirksen Courthouse tested positive last night for COVID-19. The employee was last in the Courthouse on Thursday, October 15, 2020. Based on our brief investigation, we believe the individual was on no other floors of the building, wore a face covering for the entire time the individual was in the building, and had no contact with members of the public. We have again notified the General Administrative Services and will ensure that the areas visited will be properly cleaned using appropriate protocols.

This individual positive test, like the ones I have described in earlier letters, is in my view not a basis for alarm. As always, please continue to monitor yourselves for symptoms associated with COVID-19, and do contact your healthcare provider with any questions about symptoms or specific questions about your health.

I know you do not like reading letters like this and I do not like writing them. Some day, soon I hope, the Coronavirus pandemic will be behind us. For now, though, we are closely monitoring the increases of COVID-19 transmissions in counties of the Northern District of Illinois and will take appropriate measures to maintain a safe workplace. This is my number one priority. I again remind you, as I have so many times, that we all must continue to maintain physical distancing efforts, wash our hands often, and wear a mask over nose and mouth, here in the Courthouse and in all social interactions. Thank you for your efforts.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca R. Pallmeyer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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