

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
AMENDED GENERAL ORDER 21-0006**

**May 26, 2021**

**IN RE: PLAN FOR THE SAFE RESUMPTION OF JURY TRIALS AND COURT OPERATIONS**

On February 17, 2021, General Order 21-0006 was entered by the Court to address significant health risks generated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This Amended General Order is entered due to updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). To conduct in-person operations safely, the Court will continue the testing protocol to help ensure that those who work in the Courthouse do not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of other Courthouse workers or visitors to the Courthouse. It is, therefore, hereby ORDERED:

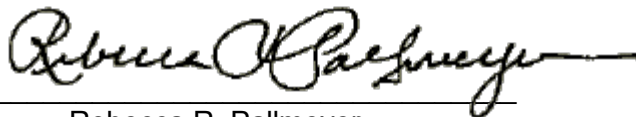
1. The Clerk of the United States District Court is authorized and directed to maintain the agreement with SHIELD Illinois to conduct a saliva-based COVID-19 screening program. In light of the dangers created by asymptomatic spread of the virus, the Court deems this non-invasive testing program to be job-related and consistent with the Court's operational requirements.
2. Because the testing protocol will be fully effective only if all employees participate, it is also hereby ORDERED that all employees, contractors, and staff of all agencies and court units at the Dirksen and Roszkowski Courthouses participate in this program. Specifically, all employees who report to work at either of these Courthouses will be required to provide a saliva sample for screening-based testing, at a frequency determined by the employees' contacts with the public, but no more often than twice a week. Test results are provided only to the employees, but an employee who tests positive is expected to report the positive test to the employee's supervisor. Saliva testing is required for just once a week for any employee, contractor or staff who is fully vaccinated, as defined by the CDC. Employees, contractors, and staff who have frequent public contact may choose to be tested more often.
3. It is ORDERED, further, that potential jurors and persons selected for petit jury service will be tested. The Court will inform jurors of the testing program. The Court will seek their consent to be tested and have their results shared with the Court's Jury

Department. If an empaneled juror tests positive for the virus, the Jury Department will subsequently notify the judge assigned to the case that a juror tested positive. Empaneled jurors shall be tested twice a week.

4. It is ORDERED, further, that any individual whose participation in a hearing or trial will exceed two days will be required to submit to testing or will be required to participate remotely only. The Clerk's Office will subsequently notify the judge assigned to the case that an individual covered under this paragraph tested positive.
5. All positive test results will be reported to the Illinois Department of Public Health in accordance with the Illinois Control of Communicable Diseases Code (77 Ill. Adm. Code 690.200(a)(5)).
6. Any individual who has religious or medical objections to the saliva-based testing protocol is directed to notify the Chief Judge of the District Court in writing, setting forth the specific concerns to enable the Court to propose a reasonable accommodation.
7. This Amended General Order does not supersede the requirement to wear a face mask within certain areas of the Courthouse. All other safety measures such as physical distance, regular handwashing, and limited elevator traffic remain in effect during the pendency of this Order.

ENTER:

FOR THE COURT:



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Rebecca R. Pallmeyer  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021