

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

February 25, 2021

Dear Dirksen Courthouse Occupants:

As you are aware, we have initiated the SHIELD Illinois saliva-based testing program. That program has been effective already in identifying an employee/contractor who had no apparent symptoms but has tested positive for COVID-19. The individual in question was assigned to the 24th floor and was last in the Dirksen Courthouse yesterday, February 24. The individual adhered to our standards, wearing a face covering and maintaining appropriate social distance while in the Courthouse. Everyone we know to have had direct contact with this employee has been notified, and the General Services Administration has already cleaned the impacted areas.

We encourage you to continue working remotely when possible. For now, we will continue to limit in-person hearings to situations where they are absolutely necessary. When in the Courthouses, we will all need to continue to observe the mitigation measures that are in place, such as physical distancing, regular handwashing, face masks, sanitizing stations, and limited elevator traffic. Please continue to monitor yourselves for symptoms associated with COVID-19 and contact your healthcare provider with any questions. If you will be in the courthouse, be sure to schedule your COVID-19 test. By doing so, and by adhering to protective measures, in and outside of the courthouses, you are protecting the health and safety of everyone.

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