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

April 12, 2021

Dear Dirksen Courthouse Occupants:

We have learned an employee / contractor, who was last in the Dirksen Courthouse on March 30 and April 9, 2021, has received positive test results for the COVID-19 virus. The employee / contractor was on the 3rd floor on March 30 and April 9.

We understand this individual wore a face covering and maintained appropriate distancing while in the Courthouse. Individuals who had direct contact with this contractor/employee will be notified, and the General Services Administration have been notified to clean the impacted areas.

As I mentioned in my email earlier today, the numbers of persons vaccinated are growing – but so are the numbers of persons who are becoming infected with COVID-19. Until the virus is under much more control, we can be safe here in this building only if we all adhere to pandemic safety protocols including, of course, masks, social distancing, and frequent handwashing. Remember, too, that <u>General Order 21-0006</u> requires everyone to undergo the SHIELD Illinois COVID screening test frequently. Frequently means twice a week for persons who are frequently in contact with others. If your contact with others is infrequent, you should be tested once a week. And as more fully explained in the <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> posted on our website, you need to be tested whether or not you have been vaccinated.

The testing room at the Dirksen Courthouse is now open Monday through Friday, 8am-4pm. In Rockford, testing is performed Tuesday through Friday, 9am-Noon. To make an appointment, please see the SHIELD website. If you have not signed up for your account yet, please contact <u>Gabriela Kennedy</u> and she can email you the registration code.

Thanks again. We are in this together, and we will get through it together.

Yours truly,

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