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

July 27, 2021

Dear Dirksen Courthouse:

Today I have learned of another employee/contractor, last in Dirksen Courthouse on the 12th floor yesterday, July 26, 2021, tested positive for COVID-19. We are notifying persons who had direct contact with this individual, and the General Services Administration will promptly clean the impacted areas.

As you can see, although things were quiet for a while, there has been an uptick in positive COVID tests. Because the Delta variant is highly contagious, I urge you to exercise caution not only here in the Courthouse, but also in your life away from work. Please do continue to adhere to the Court's mask guidelines of wearing a mask in public settings and the CDC's <u>guidelines</u> for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. Even if you are vaccinated, you need to continue to take your weekly/semi-weekly SHIELD test and review the results promptly.

And if you have not yet been vaccinated, please make an appointment. Public health authorities tell us over and over that vaccinations are the very best weapon we have against this virus. The vaccine protects you and persons you are in contact with, including children and persons who are immunocompromised or can't get vaccinated. Right now, <u>locations</u> throughout the State are administering the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to kids ages 12-15. Everyone who is 16 years of age or older is eligible to receive any one of the three COVID-19 vaccines available and can find their nearest vaccination location by clicking <u>here</u> or calling (833) 621-1284 to schedule an appointment.

Thanks again for taking responsible action and doing your best to stay healthy. .

Yours truly,

Rebecca R. Pallmeyer

Chief Judge

Chair, Dirksen Courthouse Building Security Committee