

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

August 12, 2021

Dear Rockford Courthouse:

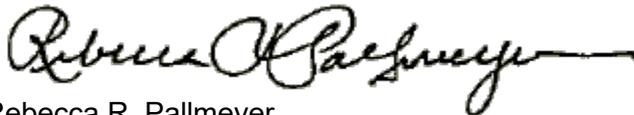
Today I have learned that a visitor, last in the Rockford Courthouse yesterday, has tested positive for COVID-19 through the SHIELD testing program. This individual was on the 5th floor of the Courthouse. We are notifying persons who had direct contact with this individual, and the General Services Administration will promptly clean the impacted areas.

Another reminder: the vaccine will be with us for some time yet. Masks, social-distancing, and handwashing all make a difference. But the most powerful tool against this virus is vaccination. We are so fortunate that the vaccine is available to us at no charge. All of us have heard about “breakthrough” infections; it’s true that vaccinated persons can still test positive. But those numbers remain low, and when vaccinated people do contract the investigation, they are far far less likely to have significant symptoms or require hospitalization.

The vaccine protects you, but that’s not the only reason to get vaccinated: Please do so to protect others with whom you are in contact, including children and persons who are immunocompromised or can’t get vaccinated. Remember you can find a [location here](#) throughout the State that is administering the 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 [here](#) or calling (833) 621-1284 to schedule an appointment.

I appreciate your help in keeping everyone safe.

Yours truly,



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