

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

November 9, 2020

Dear Dirksen and Roszkowski Courthouse Occupants:

I am sorry to report that over the weekend and throughout the day, I learned of several individuals who have recently been at the Dirksen and Roszkowski Courthouse and later tested positive for COVID-19. The individuals wore face coverings during the entire time they were in the building, and the General Administrative Services already ensured that the areas visited have been properly cleaned.

Here is a summary of the incidents that I am currently aware of:

- An employee on the 15th floor of the Dirksen Courthouse, last in the Courthouse on October 30, 2020. While this employee visited various floors of the Courthouse, any interactions with others on those floors were only brief.
- A contractor, who was last in the Roszkowski Courthouse on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 and was on the 2nd, 3rd floor, and 6th floors.
- A Court Security Officer (CSO) who was last in the Dirksen Courthouse on Wednesday, November 4, 2020. The CSO was assigned to duties in the lobby and the 11th floor of the Courthouse, including the public lobby screening station.
- A CSO who was last in the Dirksen Courthouse on Thursday, November 5, 2020. While the CSO was assigned to duties in the lobby and the basement of the Courthouse, he/she was not assigned to the public lobby screening station.
- A CSO who was last in the Dirksen Courthouse on Friday, November 6, 2020. While the CSO was assigned to duties in the lobby of the Courthouse, he/she was not assigned to the public lobby screening station.

I know all of you understand that you should continue to monitor yourselves for symptoms associated with COVID-19, and should contact your healthcare provider with any questions about symptoms or your own health. I know you also understand your responsibility to take this virus seriously, and take steps to protect yourself and others by maintaining physical distancing, wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth, and washing your hands often.

As regular media reports confirm, the rate of COVID-19 infection is rapidly rising in our communities. We are seeing the direct result in our courthouses. I have scheduled a meeting of the Restart Taskforce and the Court's Executive Committee, and I expect to report by the end of the week on our next steps.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rebecca R. Pallmeyer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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