

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 30, 2021

Dear Dirksen Courthouse:

I have learned of two individuals that were last in the Dirksen Courthouse today and later tested positive for COVID-19:

- An individual was on the 15<sup>th</sup> floor of the Courthouse and tested positive soon after the visit.
- A contractor/employee who was present on the basement level, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and 23<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Dirksen Courthouse earlier today, then received a positive test result for the COVID-19 virus.

I understand that these individuals were not on any other floors of the building, wore a face covering and maintained appropriate distancing while in the Courthouse. Individuals who had direct contact with these individual have been notified, and the General Services Administration will clean the impacted areas.

Masks, social-distancing, and handwashing all make a difference. But as noted in previous letters, the most powerful tool against this virus is vaccination. That is why we are encouraging everyone who works here to be vaccinated, and requiring twice-weekly PCR tests for those who are not.

The vaccine is readily available at multiple locations for no cost. Here is just one great opportunity: On Wednesday, September 8, our Second Chance Re-Entry Court will be conducting a graduation ceremony for several of its graduates. The Union League Club is hosting the ceremony and has also agreed to make space available for a “pop up” vaccination clinic at the same time. Space will be set aside in the Union League Club building (65 West Jackson), and at a mobile unit outside the Club. The Friend Health Clinic, which has established mobile vaccination units all over the Chicago area, will be providing those vaccinations, both Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. that afternoon. The vaccines will be available for the Re-entry Court graduates, their family members and guests, any federal workers, our newly naturalized citizens – in short, all are welcome. No appointment is necessary. The Clinic has ample supplies of the vaccines, but if you are interested in participating, you could help us get a sense of the demand by sending a message to [Covid\\_Report@ilnd.uscourts.gov](mailto:Covid_Report@ilnd.uscourts.gov). And even if you don't register in advance, you are most welcome to show up at the clinic and get the shot, during work hours.

I appreciate your help in keeping everyone safe.

Yours truly,



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