

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

October 13, 2020

Dear Roszkowski Courthouse Occupants:

This afternoon, I learned that a Court Security Officer who was last in the Roszkowski Courthouse on October 8, 2020 tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. That Officer has not been assigned to screen visitors in the lobby nor assigned to any duties that required the Officer to interact with the public. The General Services Administration will ensure that the areas visited will be properly cleaned using the appropriate protocols.

I know nobody is happy to receive these letters from me, and I can assure you that Tom Bruton and I are never happy about sending them. Again, I want to remind you that although COVID-19 spreads easily between people and can live on surfaces, the [CDC advises](#) that touching a surface or object that has the virus on it is not the main way the infection spreads. That means that this individual positive test is not a basis for alarm. You should, of course, continue to monitor yourself for any symptoms associated with COVID-19, and you should contact your healthcare provider with any questions about symptoms or specific questions about your health.

This virus will be with us into the winter. Because contact with an infected person is the most common way that the virus spreads, I want to remind you of the steps that we do need to take. Please do your best to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 by maintaining at least a six-foot distance from others, particularly indoors; washing your hands; and wearing a mask or face covering over nose and mouth—not only at work, but also in your social interactions. I appreciate your continued diligence in following these measures.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca R. Pallmeyer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rebecca R. Pallmeyer
Chief Judge