

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 Dirksen Courthouse Occupants:

This morning, I learned that a litigant who was last in the Dirksen Courthouse on October 7, 2020 received a positive result today for the COVID-19 virus. The litigant was on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> floors of the Courthouse for a hearing. Based upon contract tracing and our investigation, it is my understanding that the individual was wearing a face covering the entire time they were in the Courthouse. The General Services Administration will ensure that the areas visited will be properly cleaned using the appropriate protocols.

As you know, COVID-19 spreads easily between people and can live on surfaces, but the [CDC advises](#) that touching a surface or object that has the virus on it is not the main way the infection spreads. I do not believe this individual positive test is a basis for alarm. As always, you should 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.

As you well know, the best way that we can prevent the transmission of COVID-19 is to maintain at least a six-foot distance, wash our hands, and wear 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,



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