

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

September 11, 2020

Dear Dirksen Courthouse Occupants:

This afternoon, we learned that a visitor who was in the Dirksen Courthouse on two recent occasions has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. On Thursday, September 3, 2020, the individual visited the 4<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> floors of the Courthouse. On Tuesday, September 8, 2020, the individual visited the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> floors of the Courthouse. Based upon the contact tracing and investigation being performed, it is my understanding that the individual was wearing a face covering during 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.

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 our face coverings. I appreciate your continued diligence in following these measures.

Yours truly,



Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer  
United States District Court Judge  
Chair, Dirksen Building Safety and Security Committee