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N e w s R e l e a s e

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Captain Patrick Yoes
Special Services

The St. Charles Parish Courthouse has been cleared and is now safe to enter. However, offices will remain closed to the public throughout today. Normal business will resume on Tuesday morning.

At approximately 10:37 AM today, staff in Judge Lauren Lemmon's office received an envelope from an inmate in the St. Charles Sheriff's Office Correctional Center. When the staff opened the envelope, a white flakey substance was observed on the document. Due to the suspicious nature of the contents and in an abundance of caution, the courthouse was evacuated and the Sheriff's Office was notified.

Investigation revealed that an inmate mailed two legal documents, one to Judge Lemmon and the second to the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. Being the inmate had only one large envelope, he cut the envelope in half and sealed the envelope sent to Judge Lemon with toothpaste as glue.

The Louisiana State Police and FBI conducted extensive testing and found there is no health threat. All test for harmful substances were negative.