

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

Re: Access to Federal District Court
Courthouses in the Eastern District
of Michigan During the COVID-19
Pandemic

Administrative Order

No. 22-AO-057

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER – COURTHOUSE ENTRY / MASKING

This administrative order supersedes administrative orders 22-AO-014 (health assessment) and 22-AO-038 (mask policy) and provides updated guidance related to courthouse entry processes.

After considering guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the Michigan Department of Health, local and federal guidelines, and relevant data concerning infection, hospitalization, and death rates from COVID-19 and its variants, in consultation with an epidemiologist, and the recommendations of the Court's Reconstitution Committee, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

- 1) Masks are OPTIONAL in Court facilities EXCEPT as set forth below for the following individuals:
 - a. Jurors and employees interacting with them;
 - b. Attendees in naturalization ceremonies;
 - c. Attendees in duty court;
 - d. Employees in close contact with the public;
 - e. Unvaccinated lawyers and litigants; and
 - f. Members of the general public visiting the Pretrial Services Agency and Probation Department.

Acceptable masks include: KN95, N95, surgical, or multi-layered cloth masks. Masks with vents and face shields are unacceptable. If a person does not have a mask, they will be provided one.

Judicial officers have discretion to require any or all individuals in a courtroom to wear a mask.

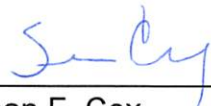
No one can order a juror or employee to remove a mask.

- 2) All persons must conduct a health self-assessment and will be directed by court security to review the list of questions regarding COVID-19 status and possible exposure. The health self-assessment can be found on the Court's website.
- 3) A person may not enter the Courthouse if he or she:
 - a. is positive for COVID-19;
 - b. is experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 identified in the health self-assessment or have experienced within the last 10 days;
- 4) A person exposed to an infected individual for a total of 15 minutes or more within the past 24 hours must wear an acceptable mask when entering the courthouse.
- 5) Employees of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan should refer to the Employee COVID Pandemic Policy for guidance related to pandemic protocols, including the wearing of masks.

This order may be amended if circumstances require.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:



Sean F. Cox
Chief Judge

11/18/22