

**FILED**  
 Superior Court of California  
 County of Los Angeles

JUN 24 2021

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court  
 By Paula Hernandez Deputy  
 Paula Hernandez

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE  
 PRESIDING JUDGE RE MANDATORY  
 USE OF FACE MASKS DURING THE  
 COVID-19 PANDEMIC

GENERAL ORDER  
 (Effective June 28, 2021)

In response to the rising number of residents who have received the COVID-19 vaccine, the decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases, and the desire to reopen the economy, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)), recently lifted mask mandates and physical distancing requirements for vaccinated persons in most public spaces. As of June 15, 2021, the California Department of Public Health ([CA DPH](#)) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health ([LA DPH](#)) both issued updated guidance to align with the CDC. Public health authorities acknowledged the right of businesses and entities to retain mask requirements. Workplaces such as the Court are subject to the revised COVID-19 Prevention [Emergency Temporary Standards](#) adopted by Cal/OSHA on June 17, 2021.

To continue to protect the health of court users, pursuant to Cal. Const. art., VI §1, Code Civ. Proc. § 128, Gov. Code § 68070, Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.603, and the inherent powers of the Court (*In re Reno* (2012) 55 Cal.4th 428, 522), and in compliance with federal, state, and local public health guidance, **THIS COURT HEREBY FINDS, AND ORDERS<sup>1</sup> AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Face Coverings:

- a. All persons entering any courthouse - regardless of vaccination status - shall wear a face mask over both the nose and mouth while in public areas of the courthouse,

<sup>1</sup> This order supersedes and replaces the Court's February 25, 2021, General Order on face coverings.

1 including courtrooms. Children under the age of two (2) are exempt from the order.

2 Court employees must wear masks that meet the Cal/OSHA requirements.<sup>2</sup>

- 3 b. Individuals with a physical or mental health impairment or disability who seek an  
4 exemption from the face mask requirement must contact the ADA liaison at the  
5 courthouse prior to their appearance to request a reasonable accommodation pursuant to  
6 the Americans with Disabilities Act or Rule 1.100 of the California Rules of Court. A  
7 list of ADA liaisons is available at [www.lacourt.org/ada/adahome.aspx](http://www.lacourt.org/ada/adahome.aspx).
- 8 c. Individuals who decline or refuse to wear a face mask without a court order exempting  
9 them from the mask requirement will be denied entry to the courthouse and/or  
10 courtroom.
- 11 d. Individuals who remove their face masks after entering the courthouse or courtroom  
12 will be reminded to wear them. If they refuse, they may be denied services, may have  
13 their legal matters rescheduled, and/or will be asked to leave the courthouse or  
14 courtroom immediately. Persons who refuse to leave voluntarily will be escorted out of  
15 the courthouse and/or courtroom by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
16 personnel.

17 2. Public Access and Social Distancing:

- 18 a. [General Order 2020-GEN-025-00](#), dated November 23, 2020, is hereby rescinded.
- 19 b. Paragraph 1a (Courthouse Access and Remote Appearances) of [General Order 2021-](#)  
20 [GEN-022-00](#), dated June 17, 2021, is modified as follows:
- 21 The Court encourages persons seeking services from the Clerk's Office, court  
22 support services, and/or the Self-Help Centers to schedule an appointment. The  
23 telephone numbers to schedule appointments for each courthouse are listed at  
24 courthouse entrances and are posted on the Court's website, [www.lacourt.org](http://www.lacourt.org).
- 25 c. Paragraph 2b of [General Order 2021-GEN-022-00](#), dated June 17, 2021, is rescinded.
- 26

27 <sup>2</sup> The ETS defines a face covering as "a surgical mask, a medical procedure mask, a respirator worn voluntarily,  
28 or a tightly woven fabric or non-woven material of at least two layers. A face covering has no visible holes or  
openings and must cover the nose and mouth. A face covering does not include a scarf, ski mask, balaclava,  
bandana, turtleneck, collar, or single layer of fabric." 8 Cal. Code of Regulations § 3205(b)(8).

3. Other Protective Practices:

All persons are encouraged to use hand sanitizer when entering the courthouse, practice good handwashing hygiene, and cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, preferably with a tissue.

**THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE JUNE 28, 2021, AND WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, OR UNTIL ITS PROVISIONS EXPIRE BY THEIR TERMS, ARE RESCINDED, AMENDED, OR ARE SUPERSEDED BY SUBSEQUENT ORDERS. GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFOR, IT IS SO ORDERED.**

DATED: June 24, 2021



*Eric C. Taylor*  
ERIC C. TAYLOR  
Presiding Judge