

FILED
REBECCA PADILLA
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

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BY 

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PINAL

IN THE MATTER OF PHYSICAL ACCESS)
TO COURT FACILITIES DUE TO A PUBLIC)
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND)
TRANSITION TO RESUMPTION OF)
OPERATIONS)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 2021 - 00034

Due to concern for the spread of COVID-19 in the general population, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Arizona issued numerous Administrative Orders over the last 15 months to address measures to be taken by the Judicial Branch to conduct business in a manner that reduces the risk associated with this public health emergency. The Orders directed the presiding superior court judge of each county to determine how in-person proceedings were to be conducted in each of the county's courtrooms under conditions that protect the health and safety of participants and the public.

The Supreme Court has now issued Administrative Order No. 2021-77 which suspends the statewide face-covering requirement for the Judicial Branch in Arizona and allows the presiding superior court judge of a county discretion to determine whether to require judicial officers, court employees, court participants, and visitors to wear a mask or face-covering.

Over the course of the public health emergency, the Judicial Branch in Pinal County has issued several Administrative Orders to adjust court operations to match the risk posed by COVID-19 within Pinal County at any given time. Based on health metrics and guidance from the CDC, it is appropriate to begin implementing changes in court practices to transition to normal operations.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that effective June 7, 2021, all persons entering superior court facilities in Pinal County shall wear a mask or face covering when they are in a posted Mask Mandated Area. All persons entering a court facility who are fully vaccinated (14 days from final vaccination) have the option of wearing a mask or face covering in any area of a court facility that is not a posted Mask Mandated Area. The Court recommends that all unvaccinated persons who enter a court facility wear a mask or face covering within any area of a court facility. Any person who refuses to wear a mask or face covering as directed by court personnel will be denied entrance or removed from the facility.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Judicial Branch employees and judicial officers who are fully vaccinated (14 days from final vaccination) have the option of wearing a mask or face covering in any area of a court facility that is not a posted Mask Mandated Area. The



Court recommends that all unvaccinated employees and judicial officers wear a mask or face covering within any area of a court facility unless they are at their workspace and more than six feet away from any other person.

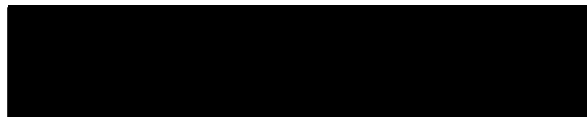
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mask Mandated Areas shall include, but are not limited to, courtrooms, jury assembly areas, law library, clerk lobbies or filing counters, probation office lobbies, conciliation services lobby and juvenile detention facilities.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person entering a courthouse in Pinal County is subject to a health screening protocol established by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Any person who does not pass the health screening protocol shall be denied entrance into the facility.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that during in-courtroom proceedings, the judicial officer may authorize the removal of masks or face coverings for any reason deemed necessary by the judicial officer provided that appropriate social distancing or other protective measures are followed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED all limited jurisdiction courts located in Pinal County shall implement this order on or before June 14, 2021.

Dated this 4th day of June, 2021



Honorable Stephen F. McCarville,
Presiding Judge

Original: Filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Rebecca Padilla, Clerk of the Court
All Superior Court Judges, Pinal County
Kent Volkmer, Pinal County Attorney
Kate Miliewski, Public Defender
Cathryn Whalen, Indigent Defense Services
Todd D. Zweig, Court Administrator
Rod Mckone, Chief Probation Officer
Tracy McElroy, Conciliation Services Director
Denise Smith, Juvenile Court Services Director