

United States Court of Appeals

For the Seventh Circuit
Chicago, Illinois 60604

General Order 21-006

ORDER Regarding Masking and COVID-19 Self-Certification

In response to current data regarding COVID-19 infection rates, and in accordance with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, state and local public-health authorities, the *Federal Judiciary COVID-19 Recovery Guidelines*, and the United States Courts *Safe Return to the Workplace Handbook*,

It is hereby ORDERED that:

Effective September 1, 2021, when the court exits its Continuity of Operations Plan and resumes in-person operations, all persons seeking entry to any office, room, or facility of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit at the Dirksen United States Courthouse shall comply with the following requirements:

MASKING AND SOCIAL DISTANCING:

In accordance with Chief Judge Pallmeyer's Order dated May 26, 2021, generally applicable to areas within the Dirksen Courthouse, all persons, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a face covering or mask in this court's public areas, including the lobby, elevator banks, public corridors, the Clerk's Office front desk, and public restrooms, except as specified below.

Courtroom and Lawyers' Lounge: Persons who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 do not need to wear a face covering or mask or observe social distancing in the courtroom or lawyers' lounge.¹ Persons who are not fully vaccinated must wear a face covering or mask and observe social distancing in the courtroom and lawyers' lounge.

To facilitate the effective administration of the masking and social-distancing requirements, proof of vaccination (or alternatively, proof of a negative COVID-19 test

¹ Persons are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 two weeks after they have received the second dose in a two-dose series or two weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine.

taken no more than 72 hours prior to the date of entry) must be presented before admittance to the courtroom or lawyers' lounge.

Nonpublic areas: Persons who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 do not need to wear a face covering or mask or observe social distancing in the court's nonpublic areas, including employee offices, nonpublic corridors, and conference rooms. Persons who are not fully vaccinated must wear a face covering or mask and observe social distancing in the court's nonpublic areas, except that an employee who is not fully vaccinated may remove the face covering or mask when alone in his or her own private office.

To facilitate the effective administration of the masking and social-distancing requirements, court-unit executives and supervisors shall ascertain the vaccination status of employees under their supervision and obtain proof of vaccination.

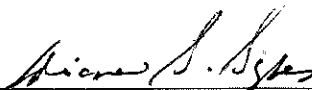
Judges establish the masking and social-distancing requirements for their own chambers.

SELF-CERTIFICATION REGARDING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS:

By entering any of this court's offices, rooms, or facilities in the Dirksen Courthouse, a person certifies that he or she:

- Has not tested positive for COVID-19 within the previous 10 days or been asked or required to self-quarantine due to exposure to COVID-19;
- Has not within the previous 14 days had known close contact with a person who has COVID-19 or with a person who has been asked or required to self-quarantine due to exposure to COVID-19; and
- Has not within the previous 14 days experienced symptoms consistent with COVID-19, including a temperature of more than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, muscle or body aches, nausea or vomiting, or new loss of taste or smell.

For the Court:



Diane S. Sykes, Chief Judge

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 22nd day of July, 2021.