

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

In the matter of

FACE COVERING  
REQUIREMENTS  
DURING COVID-19  
EFFECTIVE MAY 27, 2020

**MISCELLANEOUS  
GENERAL ORDER 20-18**

This Order is intended to supplement Miscellaneous General Order 20-17, which is currently in effect until July 6, 2020. In light of the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and local public health officials,<sup>1</sup> the Court finds it necessary to adopt additional protocols for access to the United States District Court for the District of Alaska courthouses in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau (“the Courthouses”). Nothing in this Order relaxes the current restrictions on public access to the Courthouses imposed by Miscellaneous General Order 20-17.

Effective immediately, all persons over two years of age<sup>2</sup> seeking access to or operating within the Courthouses are required to wear a face covering or mask at all times while occupying public spaces or common areas, unless otherwise directed by the Court or a Courthouse official. The face covering need not be a medical-grade mask but must completely conceal the wearer’s nose and mouth when worn. If a medical condition prevents a person from wearing a face covering, they must show proof of the medical condition in the form of a physician’s order or other documentation. The Court Security Officers shall enforce this Order and deny entry to those individuals not wearing a face covering or mask.

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Recommendations Regarding the Use of Cloth Face Coverings, Especially in Areas of Significant Community-Based Transmission, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Centers of Disease Control and Prevention recommends that “children under age 2, or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance” should not wear face coverings. How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html>. The American Academy of Pediatrics explains that masks and other face coverings may present additional risks for children under the age of two. American Academy of Pediatrics, Masks and Children during COVID-19, <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/masks-and-children-during-covid-19/>.

All employees or contractors of the Court, Clerk’s Office, and U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services, who work alone in a private office or workspace that permits at least six feet of physical distance from other persons, may temporarily remove the face covering while in their designated office or workspace.

In addition, effective immediately, the following persons shall not enter any of the Courthouses:

1. Persons currently diagnosed with or experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19;<sup>3</sup>
2. Persons who have had close physical contact within the last 14 days with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19; or
3. Persons who have been asked to self-observe, self-isolate, or self-quarantine by a doctor, hospital, or public health authority within the last 14 days.

**Anyone attempting to enter or remain in a federal courthouse in violation of this Order will be escorted from the premises immediately.**

DATED this 27th day of May, 2020

/s/ Timothy M. Burgess  
Hon. Timothy M. Burgess  
Chief United States District Judge

Distribution:

District Judges	Magistrate Judges
U.S. Attorney	Federal Public Defender
Clerk of Court	U.S. Marshal
Court Librarian	U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services
Bankruptcy Judge	Clerk of Court Bankruptcy
Court Rules Attorney	Alaska Bar Assn
Active Alaska Attys	via ECF

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<sup>3</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Symptoms of Coronavirus, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.