

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

In the matter of

REINSTATING MASK MANDATE
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

**MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL
ORDER 22-11**

This Miscellaneous General Order reinstates the masking requirement while in the federal courthouses for the District of Alaska. The Court enters this order due to the marked increase in COVID-19 cases and associated hospitalizations in the District of Alaska in recent weeks.¹ As defined by the CDC, most of Alaska’s 29 communities are at a high COVID-19 Community Level.² The Court will continue to monitor COVID-19 developments and will modify masking requirements as warranted.

Effective immediately, unless ordered by a presiding judge in a case, masks or face coverings are required to be worn by parties to court proceedings, jurors, courthouse staff, courthouse visitors, and all other persons seeking access to the federal courthouses for the District of Alaska. 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.

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

¹ State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, *Alaska Department of Health Weekly COVID-19 and Influenza Update*, <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/covidandflu.aspx> (June 25, 2022).

²CDC, *U.S. COVID-19 by County*, www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html (last accessed July 5, 2022).

office or workspace.

The COVID-19 pandemic is still considered a national emergency pursuant to the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. § 1601, *et seq.* The finding made by the Judicial Conference of the United States that “emergency conditions due to the national emergency declared by the President with respect to COVID-19 will materially affect the functioning of the federal courts generally” remains. This Order does not affect the Court’s reauthorization of CARES Act procedures set forth in Miscellaneous General Order 22-10, the Court’s resumption of non-case related court functions as set forth in Miscellaneous General Order 22-08, or the Court’s resumption of jury trials as set forth in Miscellaneous General Order 22-06.

DATED this 5th day of July, 2022.

/s/Sharon L. Gleason
Hon. Sharon L. Gleason
Chief United States District Judge

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