

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-06 RE: MASK REQUIREMENTS**

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Governor Polis issued Executive Order D2021-079 on April 3, 2021. While it modifies and reduces the nature and scope of the statewide mask requirement, section II A 2 provides that in all public areas of government buildings, with limited exceptions, mask shall continue to be worn.

The Court accordingly orders as follows for the sake of public health and safety and for consistency in the District and to conform to the jury protocols we have put in place in the 7th Judicial District to protect prospective jurors, parties, counsel, public, staff and judges:

1. Masks shall continue to be required in all court locations in public areas.
2. For those under 11 years of age, or those with underlying medical conditions an exception is made.
3. Further, in the discretion of the presiding judge or judicial officer, a witness while testifying may remove their mask in order to be heard.
4. Further, exceptions will apply, again in the discretion of the presiding judicial officer, where an individual needs to see facial expressions to assist understanding what is said, as well as for other matters such as identification of a party or witness and other specific circumstances where mask wearing would interfere with the integrity of the proceeding.
5. This shall apply inside court facilities, offices, lobbies and elevators, hallways, courtrooms, employee common areas, and other public areas. For employees in private offices or individual work stations masks are not required unless staff are within six feet of others.

Dated and effective this the 5th day of April, 2021.

BY THE COURT:



J. Steven Patrick  
Chief Judge

XC: 7th JD Judges  
7th JD Clerks of Court  
7th JD Probation