

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 48 (2022)  
GOVERNING COURTHOUSE ACCESS AND RESTRICTIONS  
DURING COVID-19

WHEREAS, COVID-19 remains a public health concern and continues to require certain measures, with appropriate adjustments, to reasonably reduce the risk of transmission of individuals entering the courthouse; and,

WHEREAS, a new series of administrative orders, referencing, and relying on, guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) and local health authorities, has been issued by Chief Judge Joseph M. Getty relative to such measures; and,

WHEREAS, the most recent guidance issued by the CDC, the Maryland Department of Health, and local health agencies, when deemed reasonable and appropriate by the Administrative Judge of this Court, will continue to be utilized; and,

WHEREAS, the CDC guidance, as of the date of this order, indicates that indoor masking is not required for Kent County; and,

WHEREAS, the Kent County Health Officer has confirmed the status of the CDC guidance for Kent County; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Hogan has ended the indoor masking requirement for State of Maryland buildings.

NOW THEREFORE, effective March 7, 2022, it is ORDERED as follows:

Entry to all individuals is subject to COVID-19 screening questions (as may be revised from time to time) and, when deemed appropriate, a non-contact temperature check;

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No person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 5 days may enter the courthouse;

No person advised or ordered by a medical or health professional to self-quarantine may enter the courthouse;

No person waiting for results from a COVID-19 test taken due to symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or who is exhibiting symptoms may enter the courthouse;

The numbers of individuals permitted in the courtrooms and other areas of the courthouse will be monitored, regulated, and, when appropriate under the circumstances, limited by the judges and security personnel;

An inmate may not be transported to the courthouse if the inmate: (1) is in quarantine for COVID-19 within a prison or detention facility; (2) tests positive for COVID-19; (3) exhibits signs of illness; or (4) has a temperature greater than 100.3 degrees Fahrenheit;

Masks and social distancing are voluntary, except as otherwise indicated herein or in any instances where the Administrative Judge of this Court, with regard to the courthouse generally, or the presiding judge in a courtroom specifically, determines they are necessary;

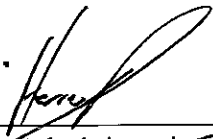
The administrative heads of the District Court, the Circuit Court Clerk's Office and the Register of Wills may implement separate masking policies that apply to their respective staff members;

Any courthouse employee who tests positive for COVID-19, or who has been advised by medical personnel that he or she is presumptively positive, shall self-report immediately to his or her administrative head, self-quarantine, and not return to the courthouse until cleared by his or her administrative head;

Except as permitted by the most recent guidance of the CDC and state and local health departments, any employee who has been in contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19, or who has been advised by medical personnel that he or she is presumptively positive, shall quarantine for 5 days or as otherwise directed.

3/1/22

Date

  
Administrative Judge