

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

STATE OF IDAHO

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IMPOSITION OF MASK AND SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS IN COURTROOMS AND COURT RELATED AREAS IN THE COURTHOUSES IN ADA, BOISE, ELMORE, AND VALLEY COUNTIES DUE TO COVID-19

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO. 21-11-24

Consistent with the Idaho Supreme Court's November 23, 2021 Emergency Order Regarding Court Services, in an effort to address the substantial safety risks confronted by the public accessing the courts, court personnel, and participants in court proceedings caused by the community spread of COVID-19, the following requirements are imposed in the courthouses in Boise, Elmore, and Valley Counties:

1. Clerks Interacting with the Public. Clerks interacting with members of the public seeking court related services at the clerks' counter, and members of the public seeking services at the clerks' counter, must wear masks that cover the nose and mouth.
2. Courtrooms. In any anteroom, jury deliberation room or courtroom when members of the public (including parties, counsel, witnesses and jurors) are present during a court proceeding, all persons in such room must wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth.¹
3. Secured Court Areas.² In common areas of the secured portions of the courthouse, including hallways, restrooms, breakrooms and conference rooms, all persons must wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth.

¹For purposes of this order, the mask requirement does not apply to witnesses when testifying or court interpreters while engaged in interpreting.

²For purposes of this order, "secured areas" or "secured court areas" refer to areas where the general public cannot freely enter after being admitted to the courthouse, such as the area wherein a judge's chamber may be located.

The following requirements are imposed, specific to the Ada County Courthouse and Juvenile Court Building:

1. Clerks' Counter at the Ada County Courthouse and Juvenile Court Building. The clerks interacting with members of the public at the clerks' counter at the Juvenile Court Building and at the first-floor counter of the Ada County Courthouse, and members of the public seeking services at such clerks' counter, must wear masks that cover the nose and mouth.
2. Courtrooms in the Ada County Courthouse and Juvenile Court Building. In any anteroom, jury deliberation room or courtroom when members of the public (including parties, counsel, witnesses and jurors) are present during a court proceeding, all persons in such room must wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth.
3. Public Common Areas of Certain Court Facilities in the Ada County Courthouse and the Juvenile Court Building. Any person entering the public common areas on the second, fourth, and fifth floors of the Ada County Courthouse, or the public areas of the Juvenile Court Building, including the hallways and restrooms therein, must wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth.
4. Secured Areas of the Ada County Courthouse and the Juvenile Court Building. In common areas of the secured portions of the Juvenile Court Building and such areas of the second, fourth, and fifth floors of the Ada County Courthouse, including hallways, restrooms, breakrooms, and conference rooms, and the secured elevator on the north side of the Ada County Courthouse, all persons must wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth.

Failure to comply with the terms of this order may be treated as a contempt of court. See Idaho Code § 18-1801; Title 7, Chapter 6, Idaho Code; I.R.C.P. 75; I.C.R. 42.

When in effect, a copy of this order must be displayed at all entrances to the courthouses and annexes referenced in this order.

This order is effective November 26, 2021, continuing until this order is suspended by further order of the Administrative District Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 24th day of November 2021.



HONORABLE STEVEN J. HIPPLER
Administrative District Judge
Fourth Judicial District

cc: All Judges
Sandra Barrios, Trial Court Administrator, Fourth Judicial District
Phil McGrane, Ada County Clerk of Court
Mary T. Prisco, Boise County Clerk of Court
Shelley Essl, Elmore County Clerk of Court
Douglas Miller, Valley County Clerk of Court
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