

**STATE OF INDIANA  
VIGO SUPERIOR COURTS  
2021 TERM**

IN RE: FACE COVERINGS AND SOCIAL  
DISTANCING UNDER EXGIENT  
CIRCUMSTANCES

CAUSE NO. 84C01-2003-CB-1743

***ORDER***

Due to the continued threat to public health and safety currently posed by COVID-19 and related variants, and the recent increases in cases, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health and governmental authorities have advised individuals and entities to take precautions to slow the spread of COVID-19. Specifically, on July 27, 2021, the CDC recommended that all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, wear face coverings in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission.

Upon consideration of guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and local public health authorities, in light of the local increases in cases, it was determined that the health and safety protocols below are necessary to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Accordingly, effective immediately for the Vigo County Courthouse, Title IV-D Court and Juvenile Court (hereinafter "Courthouses"),

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

**A. Face Coverings and Social Distancing**

All persons entering any public space in the Courthouses are to wear face coverings in all public areas of these facilities, regardless of vaccination status. Further, all persons in any public space of the Courthouses must maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from others whenever possible unless social distancing cannot be accommodated due to operational necessity. Specifically,

1. All persons, regardless of vaccination status, seeking entry into the Courthouses must, in all public spaces, wear a face covering which completely covers the wearer's nose and mouth. An exception to this Order may be made for a person providing documentation that he or she is unable, for medical reasons, to wear a face covering.
2. Upon entering space belonging to any non-court offices, all persons, regardless of vaccination status, must comply with the rules and requirements of that office regarding face coverings and physical distancing.

3. Upon entering courtrooms, Judges' chambers and offices, or any space where a court proceeding is being conducted, all persons, regardless of vaccination status, must comply with the rules and requirements of the presiding Judge regarding face coverings and physical distancing.

4. All persons summoned for jury service and court staff interacting with such persons, regardless of vaccination status, must also wear face coverings and adhere to social distancing requirements while in rooms and public spaces designated for juror check-in, orientation, and related activities, unless social distancing cannot be accommodated due to operational necessity. Upon entering a courtroom, the rules and requirements of the presiding Judge take effect.

5. Any visitor seeking entry to the Courthouses without a face covering will be offered a disposable mask free of charge at the security screening checkpoint if they have a need to and are otherwise permitted to enter the courthouse.

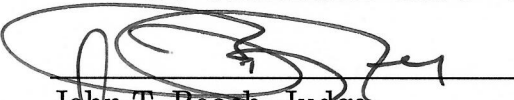
6. Any person seeking entry to the Courthouses who refuses to wear a face covering will be denied entry to the Courthouse.

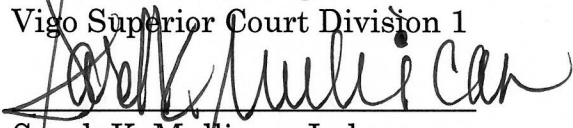
***7. Any person found to have violated this Order may be held in contempt of court, cited, and/or expelled from the Courthouse.***


## **B. Health Screening Questions**


Upon entry into the Courthouses, Court Security shall deny building access to individuals who may be infected with COVID-19 or otherwise appear to pose a public health risk. All persons seeking to enter the Courthouses will be asked questions regarding symptoms and exposure to COVID-19. Persons who indicate they have symptoms or exposure to COVID-19 will be denied Courthouse access. Those denied access will be provided information regarding the appropriate individual or entity to contact.

**SO ORDERED** this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.


  
John T. Roach, Judge  
Vigo Superior Court Division 1

  
Sarah K. Mullican, Judge  
Vigo Superior Court Division 3

  
Matthew A. Sheehan, Judge  
Vigo Superior Court Division 5

  
Lakshmi Reddy, Judge  
Vigo Superior Court Division 2

  
Christopher A. Newton, Judge  
Vigo Superior Court Division 4

  
Michael J. Lewis, Judge  
Vigo Superior Court Division 6