

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

FILED
FEB 25 2022

Clerk of the Circuit Court
Macoupin County, Illinois

**Macoupin County Administrative Order 2022-AO-3
Additional Macoupin County Courthouse Procedures for COVID-19 Coronavirus**

WHEREAS, the Illinois Supreme Court has updated the Illinois Courts Response to COVID-19 Emergency by entering its M.R. 30370 Order of February 22, 2022 which eliminates the facial covering requiring for entry into Illinois courthouses that was previously imposed as a mitigation measure;

Whereas, Illinois has seen a dramatic decline in the COVID-19 infection rates experienced throughout the state of Illinois by the spread of the Omicron variant of the coronavirus;

Whereas, multiple forms of mandatory mitigation measures previously enforced for indoor settings throughout the state are being lifted as a result of the reduced rate of infection being reported throughout the state, including the Governor's lifting of a statewide indoor mask policy for a majority of indoor environments beginning February 28, 2022;

Whereas, the Macoupin County Courts have utilized the guidance of, and followed the orders of, the Illinois Supreme Court's responses to the COVID-19 pandemic prior to enacting all Administrative Orders entered to address all COVID-19 issues.

WHEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, the Macoupin County Administrative Orders that previously imposed COVID-19 safety protocols are hereby rescinded except as expressly set forth herein.

Furthermore, previous Orders imposing mandatory facial coverings to be properly worn as a requirement for entry to the Macoupin County Courthouse are herein rescinded as of the close of business on February 25, 2022.

Beginning February 28, 2022, all entrants to the Macoupin County Courthouse, which houses the Macoupin County Courts, including judges, court staff, parties, attorneys, jurors, witnesses, and court observers and visitors, may be denied entry if they:

1. Have new flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, or shortness of breath (excluding such symptoms caused by chronic illness); or
2. Currently have been directed to quarantine or isolate at home by any medical provider or public health official; or
3. Reside or have regular close contact with a person currently subject to a quarantine or isolation direction issued by a medical provider or public health official and are not themselves fully vaccinated.

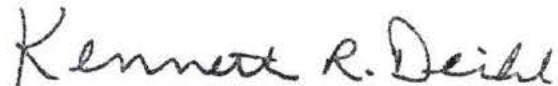
Beginning February 28, 2022, the wearing of a facial covering in the Macoupin County Courthouse is permitted, but not required. Persons choosing to wear a facial covering may be directed by a judge to remove their face covering if deemed necessary for court purposes, such as when the court is being addressed or receiving testimony.

Beginning February 28, 2022, any person denied entry to the courthouse based upon the effects of this Administrative Order shall have their name, contact information, and purpose for entering the courthouse submitted to a court security officer, who shall immediately thereafter provide said information to the Macoupin County Presiding Judge.

Attorneys and parties should be aware that individual judges may issue their own guidance on practices in certain courtrooms with the approval of the Macoupin County Presiding Judge.

This Order is effective February 28, 2022, and until further Order of the Court.

ENTERED THIS 25th DAY OF February, 2022.



KENNETH R. DEIHL
Presiding Judge, Macoupin County