


FILED

FEB 24 2022

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

 Clerk of the
Circuit Court

**Sangamon County Administrative Order 2022-1
Additional Sangamon 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 Sangamon 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 Sangamon County Administrative Orders 2020-11 and 2021-7 that previously imposed mandatory facial coverings to be properly worn as a requirement for entry to the Sangamon County Courthouse are herein rescinded as of the close of business on February 25, 2022.

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

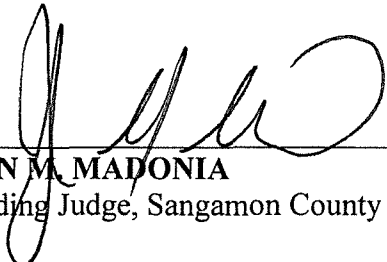
1. Have new flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, or shortness of breath (excluding such symptoms caused by chronic illness); or
2. Currently have been directed to quarantine or isolate at home by any medical provider or public health official; or
3. Reside or have regular close contact with a person 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 Sangamon 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 trial court administration. The trial court administration shall immediately determine if the person that was denied entrance to the courthouse was scheduled to appear for their own court appearance. If the person who is denied entry to the courthouse was present in response to their own scheduled court appearance, then a representative of the trial court administration shall, as soon as possible, inform the court and all parties available that the person was prohibited from attending their court appearance and no adverse consequences will result from any proceedings that were to be held for the person denied entry. Furthermore, for any such person identified as having been prevented from attending a scheduled court appearance, within 24 hours of being denied entry, a representative of trial court administration shall contact the person with a status update of their proceedings, including any newly schedule dates for further court appearances.

ENTERED THIS 24th DAY OF February, 2022.



JOHN M. MADONIA
Presiding Judge, Sangamon County