

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2022-2

COVID-RELATED ISSUES

WHEREAS Circuit wide Administrative Order 2021-6 grants Presiding Judges the authority to handle COVID-19-related issues on a local level;

WHEREAS COVID-19 and its variants have required mitigation measures over the past two years, including masks, social distancing and the opportunity for vaccinations;

WHEREAS there have been fluctuations in COVID-19 measures of danger, such as number of cases, positivity rates, hospitalizations and deaths, which has caused mitigation measures to change over time;

WHEREAS the measures of danger are headed in the right direction and the Governor of Illinois, local governments and entities are modifying their rules, there is a need to change mitigation measures again.

THEREFORE: Champaign County Administrative Orders 2021-5 and 2021-6, both related to COVID issues, are rescinded and replaced with the following:

1. **Resumption of All Matters.** Courts are no longer limited to hearing only essential activities. Courts may resume all matters and schedule them accordingly.
2. **Courtroom Limitations and Reduced Call Size.** Courtrooms are not required to adhere to a strict 6 foot rule for social distancing. Judges have discretion to determine the capacity limit for their courtroom based on the size of the courtroom, the number of persons present, the length of matters, etc. Remote hearings are strongly encouraged, when appropriate and for those judges able to accommodate such hearings.
3. **Prohibited Entry.** No person will be allowed access to the Courthouse if that person:
 - a. Has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the previous 5 days;
 - b. Has flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptom identified by a health professional as a symptom of COVID-19;
 - c. Has been directed by a medical provider to quarantine, isolate, or self-monitor at home for COVID-19;
 - d. Reside with, or have regular close contact with, a person who was directed to quarantine or isolate by public health officials or a medical professional.
 - e. Traveled to, or been in close contact with anyone who has traveled to, any country designated by the CDC as a high-risk location for COVID-19, within the last 5 days.


Subsections (d) and (e) do not apply to fully-vaccinated persons unless they are exhibiting symptoms. A “fully vaccinated person” is defined as two weeks after the person has received their final vaccination injection (not booster).

The Court will not routinely screen persons for vaccination status but reserves the right to inquire and require proof of vaccination.

4. **Masks / Face Coverings.** Masks and face coverings are not required of any person, regardless of vaccination status, in judicial areas or courtrooms. Any person who wishes to wear such a covering may do so.
5. **Precautions.** Frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned daily by courthouse personnel. Hand sanitizer should be made available to the public in multiple locations throughout the courthouse and in each courtroom.
6. **Jury Trials.** In the Jury Assembly Room, potential jurors do not need to sit 6 feet apart but an area will be set aside for those who choose to do so. If available, jury trials will generally be held in Courtrooms A, F and L. Judges may use other courtrooms if necessary. If available, during deliberations, jurors will be placed in a vacant courtroom so they may space apart as they wish.
7. **Individual Judge/Courtroom Order.** Attorneys and parties should be aware that individual judges may issue their own guidance on practices in certain courtrooms with the approval of the Presiding Judge.

This Order is effective March 1, 2022 and until further Order of the Court.

Date: 2/18/22

ENTER: 
Presiding Judge Randall B Rosenbaum