

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-09

This Order will supersede, as of July 12, 2021, all prior Circuit-Wide Administrative Orders 2020-13, 2020-15, 2020-21, 2020-24, 2021-02, and modify 2021-06, 2021-07.

WHEREAS, for the reasons mentioned in the prior 10th Circuit Administrative Orders entered and reference therein to various Orders of the Illinois Supreme Court (M.R. 303070 and recent amendments thereto), all dealing with the global Covid-19 and after consultation/input with and from various local justice partners and local stake holders, and;

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has transitioned to Phase 5.

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to update prior Administrative Orders, taking access to justice and public safety into account and upon considering guidance received from, but not limited to, the Illinois Supreme Court (e.g., M.R. 303070 and recent amendments); it is hereby **ORDERED**:

1. Pursuant to the Order of the Illinois Supreme Court in M.R. 30370, no individual may enter any courthouse or court facility if they:
 - a. Have new flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, or shortness of breath (excluding such symptoms caused by chronic conditions);
 - b. Currently have been directed to quarantine or isolate at home by any medical provider or public health official; or
 - c. 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.**

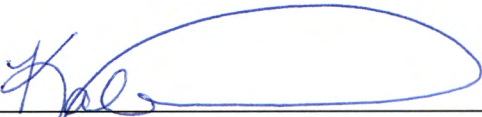
2. If unable to attend a court hearing due to any of the above restrictions, individuals are strongly encouraged to call the appropriate office of the Circuit Clerk to report your situation and for instructions on how to proceed:
 - a. Peoria County: www.judicial.peoriacounty.org/Portal or (309) 672-6984.
 - b. Tazewell County: www.tazewellcountyil.com click online court records link or (309) 477-2218 for traffic and (309) 477-2214 for all other case types.
 - c. Marshall County: www.judici.com (select Marshall County) or (309) 246-6435.
 - d. Putnam County: www.judici.com (select Putnam County) or (815) 925-7016.
 - e. Stark County: www.judici.com (select Stark County) or (309) 286-5941.

3. Fully vaccinated individuals, as defined by the State of Illinois Executive Order 2021-10, are no longer required to wear face coverings while in the Tenth Judicial Circuit Courthouses unless social distancing cannot be maintained in crowded areas. Accordingly, when in areas of substantial or high community transmissions, as identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, all individuals, regardless of vaccination status are required to mask.
4. Masks/Face coverings. Masks or face coverings should be worn at all times while in the courthouse unless the person is (1) otherwise instructed by court personnel; (2) under the age of two; (3) incapacitated, having trouble breathing, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance; or (4) is fully vaccinated and social distance can be maintained. Those who enter have the option of wearing a face mask at all times unless otherwise instructed by court personnel as it relates to courtroom procedure.
5. All courtrooms (14 in Peoria, six in Tazewell, and one each in Marshall, Putnam and Stark) are open for court business, as described herein, with in-person hearings being strongly encouraged and remote hearings being the exception with the goal of serving the public in person while using remote access for only routine matters subject to the oversight of the Chief Judge or respective Presiding Judge in each County.
6. In Peoria County, provided jurors are available, weekly jury trials will resume in Traffic, Misdemeanor, Felony and Civil Courtrooms. High volume courtrooms may return to in person hearings while complying with safety precautions outlined in this order.
7. The following applies when social distancing cannot be maintained in crowded areas: (1) all un-vaccinated persons should wear face coverings; (2) those fully vaccinated should wear a mask until instructed otherwise by court personnel.
8. **The Court will not routinely screen persons in the courthouse to determine their vaccination status, but it reserves the right to inquire as to any person's vaccination status and/or to require proof thereof. An attorney's election not to wear a mask will be interpreted as a representation to the Court under Supreme Court Rule 3.3 that the attorney has been fully vaccinated.**

Persons required to speak in the course of a court proceeding may be directed to remove a face covering or mask when speaking. Judges may choose not to wear a face covering or mask in court if they are able to maintain six-foot separation.

9. The Presiding Judge/Resident Circuit Judge of the respective County may use their own discretion with reference to courthouse operations in each of the respective counties.

Entered this 5th day of August 2021



Katherine S. Gorman, Chief Circuit Judge