

JUL 30 2021

STEPHANIE CAMERON, CLERK

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF TULARE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE
PRESIDING JUDGE RE: COVID-19
PANDEMIC

GENERAL ORDER RESCINDING
PRIOR ORDER 21-05 AND SETTING
NEW FACE COVERING GUIDELINES

No. 21-06

Pursuant to authority granted by the Chair of the Judicial Council of California (emergency order of March 17, 2020), and in accordance with direction from the Governor of the State of California and CAL-OSHA, the Tulare County Superior Court adopted a number of orders limiting operations of the court during the COVID-19 public health crisis, including General Order 20-09 (requiring the use of face coverings in court facilities). On June 28, 2021, in accordance with subsequent guidance from the Governor of the State of California, California Department of Public Health (CDPH), CAL-OSHA, and local public health authorities, the court issued General Order No. 21-05, in which the court, amongst other things, rescinded its General Order 20-09 and adopted new protocols for use of face coverings by employees and jurors while in court facilities.

On July 28, 2021, CDPH issued updated “Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings,” effective that same date. Per the State Public Health Officer Order of June 11, 2021, “[a]ll individuals must follow the requirements in the Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings issued by the California

1 Department of Public Health.” CDPH’s updated guidance, amongst other changes, adds a
2 “recommendation for universal masking indoors statewide,” lists masking requirements for all
3 individuals in specified indoor settings, regardless of vaccination status, and states that, “[i]n settings
4 where masks are required only for unvaccinated individuals, businesses, venue operators or hosts
5 may choose to ... [r]equire all patrons to wear masks.”

6 In accordance with CDPH’s July 28, 2021 updated “Guidance for the Use of Face
7 Coverings”, as well as guidance from Tulare County local public health authorities,

8 IT IS ORDERED that:

9 The court rescinds its General Order 21-05, and

10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

11 All persons, including judicial officers, court staff, attorneys, litigants, witnesses, victims,
12 TCSO bailiffs, vendors, and members of the public must wear face coverings upon entering any
13 Tulare County Superior Court facility. Any person not wearing a face covering will be denied entry
14 unless such person can establish an exemption specified in the CDPH’s updated masking
15 requirements. Any person requesting an exemption must complete and submit the MC-410
16 “Request for Accommodations by Persons with Disabilities and Response” form. Persons exempt
17 from face covering requirement may have their hearings delayed or continued to a time when fewer
18 people are present.

19 At all times while in public areas of court facilities, all persons must wear face coverings.
20 Public areas include courtrooms, all public hallways, public restrooms, jury assembly rooms, public
21 waiting areas, and areas of all court offices accessible to the public. Persons who remove face
22 coverings after entering the courthouse will initially be reminded to wear them. If they refuse, they
23 may be denied services, may have their matters rescheduled, and may be asked to leave the
24 courthouse. Persons who fail to comply may be escorted out of the courthouse.

25 Any person appearing as a party in a court proceeding who does not wish to wear a face
26 covering must make arrangements, in advance, to appear remotely or obtain a continuance.

27 All inmates and in-custody defendants being transported to the court must wear face
28 coverings before entering any public space in the courthouse. Such persons must wear face

1 coverings while in any courtroom and in any other public areas of court facilities where others may
2 be present.

3 Any judge of the court may modify face covering requirements as necessary to enable court
4 proceedings to be conducted in a fair and reasonable manner (e.g. to enable a witness to be clearly
5 heard and understood) while protecting the safety of persons in the courtroom.

6 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2021. IT WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT
7 UNTIL RESCINDED. THIS ORDER MAY BE AMENDED AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE.

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10 Date: July 30, 2021



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DAVID C. MATHIAS
Presiding Judge
Tulare County Superior Court

JUN 28 2021

STEPHANIE CAMERON, CLERK

BY: 

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8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9 COUNTY OF TULARE
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13 ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE
14 PRESIDING JUDGE RE: COVID-19
15 PANDEMIC

16 GENERAL ORDER RESCINDING
17 PRIOR ORDER 20-09 AND SETTING
18 NEW FACE COVERING GUIDELINES

19 No. 21-05
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23 Pursuant to authority granted by the Chair of the Judicial Council of California (emergency
24 order of March 17, 2020), and in accordance with direction from the Governor of the State of
25 California and CAL-OSHA, the Tulare County Superior Court adopted a number of orders limiting
26 operations of the court during the COVID-19 public health crisis.
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28 As of June 15, 2021 the Governor of the State of California has terminated COVID-19 related
executive orders including his Stay at Home Order and the Blueprint for a Safer Economy which have
been in place since March 2020. Many requirements for use of face coverings have been rescinded by
the Governor's order. On June 17, 2021, CAL-OSHA adopted revisions to its COVID-19 Prevention
Emergency Temporary Standards lifting many, but not all, face covering requirements. The standards

1 revisions are not wholly consistent with the Governor's June 15, 2021 order.

2 IT IS ORDERED:


3 In accordance with the new guidance from the Governor of the State of California, California
4 Department of Public Health (CDPH), CAL-OSHA, and local public health authorities, the court
5 rescinds its General Order 20-09 (requiring the use of face coverings in court facilities).

6 In accordance with guidelines established by CAL-OSHA, the court has adopted new
7 protocols for use of face coverings by employees and jurors while in court facilities. Details of the
8 court's protocols will be provided to jurors after they have entered the courthouse.

9 In accordance with guidelines established by the California Department of Health, fully
10 vaccinated persons who have completed the court's self-attestation form, will not be required to use
11 face coverings while in court facilities. All other persons will be required to use face coverings while
12 in court facilities until further order of the court.

13 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

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17 Date: June 28, 2021

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19 DAVID C. MATHIAS,
20 Presiding Judge



JUN 22 2020

STEPHANIE CAMERON, CLERK

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF TULARE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE
PRESIDING JUDGE RE: COVID-19
PANDEMIC

GENERAL ORDER
FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED
IN PUBLIC AREAS OF
COURT FACILITIES

No. 20-09

The COVID-19 virus epidemic and subsequent federal, state, and local declarations of a public health emergency continue to adversely impact the court's ability to conduct operations while protecting the safety of court users as directed by limiting personal contacts and maintaining personal distancing. In response to ongoing public risks from the virus, the Governor of the State of California on June 18, 2020 issued an order requiring all persons in California to wear face coverings when inside of, or in line to enter, any indoor public space.¹ The Tulare County Superior Court operates facilities with numerous public spaces including public hallways and courtrooms. As such, courthouses are contemplated by the Governor's order and the court is required to comply with the Governor's June 18, 2020 mandate.

¹ California Department of Public Health Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings, June 18, 2020.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

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2 All persons, including judicial officers, court staff, attorneys, litigants, witnesses, victims,
3 TCSO bailiffs, vendors, and members of the public must wear face coverings upon entering any
4 Tulare County Superior Court facility. Any person not wearing a face covering will be denied entry
5 unless such person can establish an exemption specified in the Governor's June 18, 2020 order. Any
6 person requesting an exemption must complete and submit the MC-410 "Request for
7 Accommodations by Persons with Disabilities and Response" form. Persons exempt from face
8 covering requirement may have their hearings delayed or continued to a time when fewer people are
9 present.
10

11 At all times while in public areas of court facilities, all persons must wear face coverings.
12 Public areas include courtrooms, all public hallways, public restrooms, jury assembly rooms, public
13 elevators and stairwells, public waiting areas, and areas of all court offices accessible to the public.
14 Persons who remove face coverings after entering the courthouse will initially be reminded to wear
15 them. If they refuse, they may be denied court services, may have their matters rescheduled, and will
16 be asked to leave the courthouse immediately. Persons who fail to comply will be escorted out of the
17 courthouse.
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19 Any person appearing as a party in a court proceeding who does not wish to wear a face
20 covering must make arrangements, in advance, to appear remotely or obtain a continuance.
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22 All inmates and in-custody defendants being transported to the court must wear face
23 coverings before entering any public space in the courthouse. Such persons must wear face coverings
24 while in any courtroom and in any other public areas of court facilities where others may be present.

25 Any judge of the court may modify face covering requirements as necessary to enable court
26 proceedings to be conducted in a fair and reasonable manner (e.g., to enable a witness to be clearly
27 heard and understood) while protecting the safety of persons in the courtroom.
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THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. IT WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL THE GOVERNOR'S JUNE 18, 2020 ORDER IS RESCINDED. THIS ORDER MAY BE AMENDED AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE.

Date: June 22, 2020



BRETT R. ALLDREDGE
Presiding Judge of the Tulare County Superior Court

