

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
KENDALL COUNTY**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 21 - 12

*In re the Wearing of Face Coverings
within the Public Areas and
Courtrooms of the Kendall County
Courthouse*

FILED

AUG 27 2021

MATTHEW G. PROCHASKA
CIRCUIT CLERK KENDALL CO.

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control has added a recommendation for fully vaccinated people to wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Public Health is fully adopting the updated CDC masking requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Kendall County Health Department recommends that all practical measures should be taken within the public areas of the courthouse and the courtrooms to ensure a safe environment and prevent the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Illinois has by Executive Order decreed that all individuals are required to wear masks or face coverings within indoor public spaces in an effort to prevent the spread of the coronavirus and variants; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Kendall County Board is similarly requiring the wearing of masks or face coverings in the public areas of all county buildings; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Supreme Court has previously directed courts in the State to take appropriate measures to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the public and courthouse personnel when within the public areas of court facilities; and

WHEREAS, consistent with current public health practices and recommendations, the wearing of a mask or face covering helps to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus and variants;

IT IS ORDERED as follows:

1. All individuals over the age of two entering the Kendall County Courthouse shall wear a mask or a face covering properly covering the nose and mouth while in the public areas of the courthouse. Public areas include, but are not limited to, the main entry, public hallway, restrooms, vending area, law library, public areas of any office within the courthouse, jury assembly room, and courtrooms.
2. All individuals are encouraged to wear their own mask or face covering. If an individual does not have a mask or face covering, one may be provided, if available. If a mask or face covering is not available, then the individual will not be allowed to enter the courthouse. If appropriate, such individuals may appear remotely. Handkerchiefs or bandannas are not acceptable face coverings.
3. A mask or face covering must be worn in all public areas in the courthouse and courtrooms. If an individual refuses to wear a mask or face covering in compliance with this Administrative Order, he or she will be removed from the building.
4. All judges, judicial staff, courthouse employees, attorneys and members of the general public must wear a mask or face covering when inside the public spaces of the courthouse, as described above.
5. All persons, including courtroom personnel, must wear a mask or face covering when inside all courtrooms; except that the judge presiding in the courtroom need not wear a mask or face covering, and individuals who are addressing the court or testifying during any specific court proceeding need not wear a mask or face covering when so addressing the court or testifying.

6. Reasonable accommodations will be provided for individuals with medical conditions or disabilities which prevent them from safely wearing a mask or face covering. An individual who is not able to medically tolerate a mask or face covering should contact the Court Disability Coordinator (Marci Vose at 630-553-4208 or via email at mvose@co.kendall.il.us) as soon as possible in advance of the scheduled court proceeding so that appropriate, reasonable accommodations may be made.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that court security personnel and judicial shall take reasonable measures to enforce appropriate social distancing within the courtrooms and all public spaces of the courthouse, as well as the wearing of masks or face coverings.

This Administrative Order shall be effective Monday, August 30, 2021.

Enter: August 27, 2021.



Hon. Robert P. Pilmer
Chief Judge, 23rd Judicial Circuit