

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

Miscellaneous Case No. 2:20-mc-00052



IN RE: **FACE COVERINGS OR MASKS
REQUIRED IN COURTHOUSES
in the SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA**

GENERAL ORDER #8

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, other public health authorities, and West Virginia government officials have advised taking precautions to slow the spread of COVID-19, including recommending, and in some instances mandating, the use of face coverings or masks in public settings.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, effective immediately, that all persons seeking entry to, or occupying, the United States Courthouses in Charleston, Huntington, Beckley, or Bluefield must wear a face covering or mask (“mask”). The mask must completely conceal the wearer’s nose and mouth at all times. Masks shall be worn while in all common areas of the courthouse. If the wearer is a court employee who is in a private office or workspace that permits at least six feet of physical distance from other persons, the wearer may temporarily remove the mask. Employees in a judge’s chamber must follow the directions provided by the judge.

Masks must be worn by all participants during in-court proceedings unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge. Masks will be provided to jurors who do not have their own, otherwise, all persons seeking entry to a courthouse must provide their own mask. If a visitor is unable to provide their own mask for any reason, the visitor will be asked to telephone the office to be visited to explore alternatives to entering the courthouse; and it is further

ORDERED that the courthouse entry restrictions set forth in General Order #2 remain in full force and effect, and it is finally

ORDERED that the United States Marshal, his Deputies, and the Court Security Officers shall enforce this order and deny entry to those individuals not wearing a mask.

SO ORDERED this 24th day of July, 2020.



THOMAS E. JOHNSTON, CHIEF JUDGE