

FILED

JUN 30 2021

**KIMBERLY A. ALLEN
GRANT COUNTY CLERK**

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR GRANT COUNTY

IN MATTER OF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC)
HEALTH EMERGENCY RE:)
CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19)
_____)
EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE)
ORDER NO. 12 (21-02))
RE: COURTROOM FACE COVERING)
REQUIREMENTS)

WHEREAS, on June 14, 2021, the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries issued “COVID-19 Prevention in the Workplace: *L&I Safety and Health Requirements and Guidance – Detailed*”; and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health issued “COVID-19 and Washington State Courts Public Health Risk Reduction Recommendations”, which will expire on June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, federal, state, and local health officials continue to advise members of the public who are not vaccinated to continue to wear face coverings and to remain socially distant when interacting with other individuals; and

WHEREAS, Grant County COVID-19 vaccination rates appear to be below fifty percent (50%) of the population; and

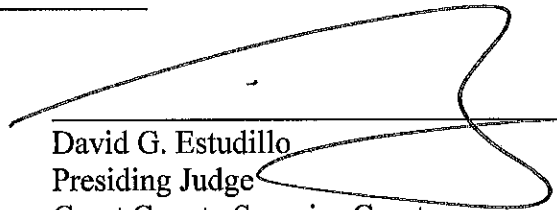
WHEREAS, the Grant County Health District continues to report COVID-19 positivity rates in Grant County higher than the stated goal of less than 25 per 100,000 residents over a fourteen (14) day period;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all individuals who physically appear in court shall be required to wear a face covering and to social distance themselves from others while in court as follows:

1. **Attorneys.** Attorneys are required to wear a face covering in court unless a copy of their COVID-19 vaccination card has been provided to the Court Administrator for the Grant County Superior Court.

2. **Jurors.** All jurors are required to wear a face covering when appearing for jury duty and will be socially distanced in the courtroom during voir dire. Upon the completion of voir dire and empaneling of the jury, jurors may participate in jury service without a face covering only if a copy of their COVID-19 vaccination card is provided to the Juror Administrator. Any juror who is unable or unwilling to provide proof of vaccination will be required to continue wearing a face covering and will continue to be socially distanced from other jurors during their jury service.
3. **Litigants and members of the public.** Litigants and members of the public appearing in court will be required to wear a face covering. Those who wish to appear in court without a face covering will be required to produce for inspection a copy of their COVID-19 vaccination card to the Court. Each individual judicial officer will be responsible for enforcing face coverings for litigants and members of the public while presiding over a matter in court.
4. **Court staff, court clerks and corrections deputies in the courtroom.** Court staff, court clerks, and Grant County Sheriff's deputies may appear in court without a face covering so long as their respective departments have approved them to work without a face covering and they have complied with providing to their respective departments proof of vaccination as required by the Grant County Human Resources Department.
5. As used herein, a "face covering" is a surgical mask, a kn95 mask or an n95 mask that is worn over the mouth and nose. Cloth masks do not qualify as a face covering.
6. This administrative order and other administrative orders previously issued by the Grant County Superior Court in response to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 public health emergency may be deemed part of the record in affected cases for purposes of appeal without the need to file the orders in each case.
7. The Court understands the pending public health emergency created by the Coronavirus/COVID-19 is a fluid situation that continues to develop on a daily and sometimes hourly basis. Accordingly, the Court will continue to review emerging developments and may issue further administrative orders as necessary.

ORDER DATED: 6/30/2021



David G. Estudillo
Presiding Judge
Grant County Superior Court