

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

IN RE: :
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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER : **STANDING ORDER NO. 2020-25**
CONCERNING THE USE OF :
FACE MASKS/COVERINGS :
AND OTHER SAFETY :
PROTOCOLS IN :
DISTRICT'S COURTHOUSES :

NOW, this 6th day of October, 2020, in furtherance of continued public health and safety, and consistent with the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control, the Court’s COVID-19 Recovery Guidelines (as amended July 9, 2020), and the Plan for Reinstitution of Jury Proceedings (as revised July 27, 2020), **IT IS ORDERED** that all persons (including but not limited to judicial officers, court personnel, court security, jurors, visitors, vendors, contractors, litigants, attorneys, and other members of the public), while in any courthouse within the Middle District of Pennsylvania, must:

1. Wear a mask or face covering that covers the nose and mouth in all public areas of the courthouse (including but not limited to hallways, public counters, elevators, indoor parking garages, stairwells, restrooms, conference rooms, jury assembly rooms and courtrooms). A mask or face covering may be removed by a witness during his/her testimony provided the witness is seated six feet from the judicial officer, counsel, and other court employees. A mask or face covering may be temporarily removed in court by any participant in a proceeding, at the discretion of the judicial officer, when removal is necessary to effectively conduct the proceedings, provided all participants are socially distant for six feet or more.

2. Adhere to safe social distancing rules, by standing or sitting at least six feet away from other individuals, abide by markings on floors and benches indicating where one may stand or sit, and if standing in line, must keep six feet away from the person in front and behind, unless taking care of a small child or assisting someone with special needs. Elevator capacity will be limited as posted.
3. Abide by all health and hygiene signage throughout the courthouses, including signage regarding masks and face coverings, social distancing, occupancy restrictions, and hand-washing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that while in any courthouse within the Middle District of Pennsylvania, all persons (including but not limited to judicial officers, court personnel, court security, jurors, visitors, vendors, contractors, litigants, attorneys, and other members of the public) must comply with this Order. The U.S. Marshal, his Deputies, and the Court Security Officers shall enforce this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall remain in effect until amended or vacated by further Order.

/s/ JOHN E. JONES III
John E. Jones III, Chief Judge
United States District Court
Middle District of Pennsylvania