Dec 15 2023

United States District Court Northern District of Ohio General Order

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2023-22

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

In Re:)	ORDER NO. 2023-22
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS)))	

On May 10, 2023, the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) national emergency expired and the Court issued Amended General Order 2020-08-13 which repealed in its entirely Amended General Order 2020-08-12 In Re: CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PHASED-IN RECOVERY PLAN.

The CDC now reports that with widespread population immunity due to vaccination, boosters, and prior COVID-19 infection, the overall risk of severe disease is now generally lower. As a result, the CDC's framework for recommending prevention measures is now based upon a COVID-19 Hospital Admissions Level model.

NOW, THEREFORE, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio hereby issues the following Order, effective immediately:

 Consistent with CDC guidance, the wearing of face coverings is required by employees and visitors to gain entrance into a federal courthouse and when in lobbies and other public areas if the then-current COVID-19 Hospital Admissions Level is high in the courthouse location. A high Hospital Admissions Level will be indicated on signage that will be posted at the building entrance(s).

- 2. In the event that CDC guidance requires the wearing of face coverings by employees and visitors as indicated in paragraph 1 and signage is posted at the entrance(s) of the affected federal courthouse, the following will apply:
 - a. Jurors entering a jury assembly room will be required to wear a face covering, unless otherwise instructed.
 - b. Individuals attending a naturalization ceremony in a courthouse will be required to wear a face covering, unless otherwise instructed.
 - c. Upon entering courtrooms, judges' chambers and offices, or any space where a court proceeding is being conducted, all persons must comply with the rules and requirements of the presiding judge regarding face coverings.
 - d. Upon entering space belonging to a tenant agency in a federal courthouse, all persons must comply with the rules and requirements of that tenant agency regarding face coverings.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT

Chief Judge