

FILED

FEB 25 2022

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

JO DAVIESS COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No 2022- 1

Kyle A. Dineen
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
JO DAVIESS COUNTY ILLINOIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING JO DAVIESS COUNTY COURT OPERATIONS—MODIFICATION OF
MASK/FACE COVERING REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, due to the frequently changing circumstances involved with the COVID-19 pandemic, measures must continue to be implemented and updated to both protect the health and safety of all those working inside the courthouse and the public, and to ensure fair and efficient access to justice; and

WHEREAS, on February 22, 2022, the Illinois Supreme Court amended its order M.R. 30370, stating, in substantive part:

“[E]ffective February 28, 2022, and until further order of the Court that paragraph F of the Court’s March 17, 2020 order as amended on August 27, 2020, May 27, 2021, and September 2, 2021, is further amended as follows

F. Individuals, including judges, court staff, parties, attorneys, jurors and witnesses, should not enter any courthouse if they

1. have new flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, or shortness of breath (excluding such symptoms caused by chronic conditions);
2. currently have been directed to quarantine or isolate at home by any medical provider or public health official; or
3. reside or have regular close contact with a person currently subject to a quarantine or isolation direction issued by a medical provider or public health official and are not themselves fully vaccinated.”

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Effective February 28, 2022, and until further order of court, individuals entering the Jo Daviess County courthouse, courtrooms, and immediate adjacent areas will not be required to wear a mask or face covering.
2. Individuals, including judges, court staff, parties, attorneys, jurors and witnesses, shall not enter any courthouse if they:
 1. have new flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, or shortness of breath (excluding such symptoms caused by chronic conditions);
 2. have then been directed to quarantine or isolate at home by any medical provider or public health official; or

3. reside or have regular close contact with a person currently subject to a quarantine or isolation direction issued by a medical provider or public health official and are not themselves fully vaccinated.

3. Anyone unable to appear in court because of any of the restrictions cited in this Order, must notify their attorney. Self-represented individuals must notify the Jo Daviess County Circuit Clerk at 815 777 0037, before their court date.

4. Anyone refused entry because of any of the restrictions cited in this Order will be asked to leave his/her name and contact information with court security.

5. Nothing in this order shall be deemed to prohibit the wearing of masks within courthouses by any individual who so chooses. Persons choosing to wear a mask may be directed by a judge to remove it if deemed necessary for court purposes, such as when addressing the court or testifying.

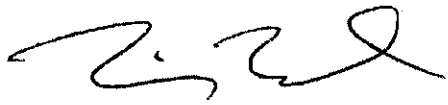
6. The purpose of this Order is to outline temporary measures and procedural changes. It will be reevaluated on a regular basis as guidance and policies from local, state and federal authorities change.

7. Prior provisions of Jo Daviess County administrative orders inconsistent herewith are superseded. Any portion of any such prior administrative order not modified by subsequent order and not inconsistent herewith remains in full force and effect.

This Administrative Order is effective February 28, 2022 and remains in effect until further order of the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: 2-25-22

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. J. Ward', written over a horizontal line.

Kevin J Ward, Presiding Judge