

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF DESCHUTES

FILED
CIRCUIT COURT
2020 JUN 17 AM 9:50
DESCHUTES COUNTY
OREGON

In the Matter of Protective Face)
Coverings in Court Facilities) GENERAL ORDER
)
) No. 2020-08
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)
_____)

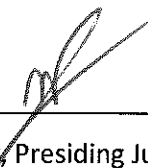
WHEREAS Chief Justice Order (CJO) No. 20-016 was entered on May 15, 2020, imposing "Level 2" and Level 3" restrictions on court operations effective June 1, 2020; and, whereas paragraph 10 of CJO No. 20-016 addresses the use of protective face coverings when entering a courthouse,

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED:

1. Definitions. "Courthouse" means the common areas open to the public, courtrooms, and work areas for court personnel in the Deschutes County Courthouse, the courtroom located at the Dennis Maloney Community Justice Center, the conference room at Sage View Psychiatric Center when used for court proceedings and any such other location that the Circuit Court may hold a trial or other proceeding within Deschutes County. "Protective face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth to protect against spreading the COVID-19 virus, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control.
2. Except for witnesses while testifying, children under two (2) years of age, and as provided in paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 below, all persons entering the Courthouse are required to wear a protective face covering while in the Courthouse.
3. A judge, referee or hearing officer presiding over a trial or proceeding in a Courtroom may, in the judge's sole discretion, decline to wear a protective face covering for all or any portion of the trial or proceeding.

4. A judge, referee or hearing officer presiding over a trial or other proceeding in a courtroom may authorize any person participating in the trial or proceeding to temporarily remove the protective face covering to facilitate communication as the judge deems appropriate.
5. Court employees shall wear protective face coverings as described in the 11th Judicial District COVID-19 Operational Plan or as otherwise directed by the Trial Court Administrator or a judge when the employee is working within the chambers area of the judge.
6. Any person seeking to enter the Courthouse without using a protective face covering because of disability, respiratory or other health-related issues, or otherwise for good cause can request an exemption from the Presiding Judge. Persons requesting an exemption should contact the Office of the Presiding Judge, Trial Court Administrator or a Court Supervisor before entering the Courthouse. Exemption requests may be presented to the Presiding Judge in writing or as otherwise directed by the Presiding Judge.
7. The Court will provide protective face coverings and information on how to use them as need and as available resources allow.
8. This order is based upon the information concerning the risks and spread of the COVID-19 virus currently available to the Court. This order may be revised as further information becomes available. This order is effective on June 17, 2020 and will remain in effect until revised or vacated by order of this Court.

DATED this 17th day of June 2020.



Wells B. Ashby, Presiding Judge