

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LUMPKIN COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

Rita Harkins
RITA HARKINS, CLERK JO

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING WEARING OF FACE MASK AND SOCIAL
DISTANCING IN THE LUMPKIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

The Enotah Judicial Circuit continues to closely monitor state and local responses to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and to follow guidance provided by state and local public health agencies and the Center for Disease Control and Preventions (CDC).

In order to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure for all people present in the Lumpkin County Courthouse, the Court orders that the following health measures be observed. These measures are necessary to reduce the risk of exposure for people visiting or working in the courthouse until this Coronavirus outbreak has abated and the Court issues an order relaxing these restrictions.

A. Admission to the Courthouse

1. All persons entering the Courthouse shall be screened for cough, fever and recent exposure to COVID-19. Individuals with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or greater will not be permitted to enter the Courthouse.
2. All persons shall wear a face mask or face covering when entering the Courthouse and shall continue to wear a face mask or face covering at all times while in the public areas of the Courthouse. Public areas include courtrooms, security reception, hallways and corridors, rest rooms, and any other area in which members of the public are permitted. An appropriate face mask or face covering is one that covers the wearer's nose and mouth with fabric or filter material, preventing the circulation of air particles and other discharges.
3. Warning notices regarding the wearing of face mask or face coverings shall be posted at the entrance to the Courthouse and throughout the Courthouse building.

B. Movement Within the Courthouse

1. People visiting the Courthouse must remain at least six (6) feet away from all other persons, at all times while in the Courthouse. (People who are related or living together are not required to maintain that distance from each other.) People using courthouse facilities or areas that are marked to indicate required distances between people must observe the markings.
2. No one shall board a public elevator with more than 2 occupants, except those whom they are related to or with whom they have traveled to court, provided the elevator is empty.
3. Court visitors shall not congregate or loiter in the hallways in a way which obstructs other persons' access to elevators, offices or courtrooms.

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4. All people visiting the Courthouse are encouraged to wash their hands frequently while present in the Courthouse. Handwashing may be done in the courthouse restrooms. Court visitors are also encouraged to use hand sanitizer while in the courthouse. Hand sanitizer dispensers can be found throughout the Courthouse.
5. Court visitors shall comply with directives of court staff and security personnel regarding appropriate distancing.

C. Admission to the Courtrooms

1. To allow for distanced seating, each person shall sit in a space marked. No one shall sit in a space not marked, and maintain six (6) feet of social distancing between unrelated, non-cohabitating persons will be exercised.
2. If a person is notified that a courtroom is full, they must follow the directions of court staff and court security for alternative seating.
3. A face mask or face covering shall be worn at all times while in the courtroom unless otherwise directed by a judicial officer.
4. Court visitors shall comply with directives of court staff and court security regarding appropriated distancing.
5. Due to limited seating, persons with business before the Court are encouraged not to bring non-essential persons with them.
6. Persons with cases on the calendar shall be given priority for seating in the active courtroom.

D. Courthouse Personnel

1. All courthouse personnel shall wear a face mask, or face covering that covers their nose and mouth, except that any courthouse employee who is not sharing an office space or cubicle with another person, or who can maintain a distance of at least six (6) feet from co-employees or others even though sharing an office, may remove a mask while in such office. Otherwise, masks or face coverings shall be continuously worn by courthouse personnel during the time they are in the Courthouse.
2. Employees with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or greater, will not be permitted to enter the Courthouse.
3. Employees who are unable to maintain prescribed social distancing with their clients shall wear a face mask or face covering.
4. Employees engaging in the frequent transfer of documents (court documents, mail, newspapers, etc) shall wear disposable gloves when engaging in these activities.

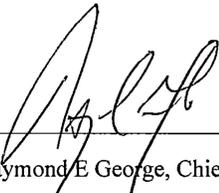
5. Frequent handwashing should be performed after being in a public area, sneezing, coughing or touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Hand sanitizer should be used if handwashing is not readily available.
6. Personal work spaces shall be cleaned and sanitized regularly.

E. Courthouse Security

Law Enforcement and Security personnel shall wear a face mask or face covering at all security or screening stations as well as all public areas of the Courthouse.

This Administrative Order shall remain in effect until amended or withdrawn by future order of this Court.

SO, ORDERED, this 25 day of June 2020.



Raymond E. George, Chief Judge
Enotah Judicial Circuit

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