

**Court of Common Pleas
Division of Domestic Relations
Hamilton County, Ohio**



In Re: : **M2100004**

**Amended Entry and Order on
Court Operations and Facilities
Order** :

This matter is before the Court sua sponte, for review of the practices and procedures of the Court during the public health crisis.

In response to the Covid-19 health crisis, and in accordance with the recommendations and public health orders, the Court issued the following:

March 13, 2020- Joint Statement on Covid-19

March 14, 2020- Joint Administrative Order

April 1, 2020- Amended Joint Administrative Order

May 7, 2020- Administrative Order Emergency Order Court Operations and Access
During Health Crisis

Those findings are all incorporated by reference herein.

On March 30, 2020, the Supreme Court of Ohio issued a Guidance to Local Courts Covid-19 Public Health Emergency. On April 28, 2020, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio issued updated guidance for the Courts of Ohio, recommending that the Ohio Courts follow the Governor's recommendations outlined in the April 27, 2020 Responsible Restart Ohio initiative. On April 30, 2020, the Health Director's Stay Safe Ohio Order was issued.

This Court in response to the continuing health crisis and in accordance with the recommendations of the Ohio Department of Health ("ODH") and the United States Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") implemented a number of safety measures, including but not limited to: reduced capacity, social distancing requirements, the required use of masks or facial coverings, temperature checks upon admission to the building, additional cleaning of high touch services and additional sanitization stations. The Court's facilities and maintenance departments have done a remarkable job cleaning and sanitizing work areas throughout this time and will continue to provide support regularly and as needed.

On May 14, 2020, the CDC updated the guidelines for persons who are fully vaccinated. In response, the Ohio Health Director issued a Second Amended Order for Social Distancing, Facial Coverings to bring the State of Ohio health orders into conformity with the new CDC guidance.

In conjunction with the updated guidance from the CDC and the ODH the Court issues the following amended order:

Effective June 2, 2021, employees who are fully vaccinated may elect not to wear masks in accordance with the guidance from the CDC and ODH. All other employees are still encouraged to continue wearing facial coverings in all areas of Court facilities except when in their private office.

The wearing of masks by members of the public, while encouraged, is no longer required in public spaces. However, masks may still be required by any Judge or Magistrate as they deem necessary in the courtroom. Public parties wearing a mask may be asked to remove their mask or facial covering if the judicial officer finds it necessary to remove the facial covering for hearing purposes.

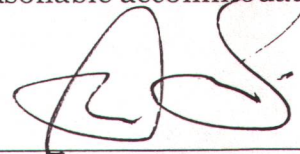
Fully vaccinated persons, including employees, do not have to engage in social distancing but may continue to do so. All others should continue to practice social distancing to the extent possible.

No person, including but not limited to staff, county employees, attorneys, litigants or members of the public shall enter the Courthouse if the person has Covid-19, suspects they have Covid-19, has a Covid-19 test pending, is exhibiting symptoms of Covid-19 (including but not limited to fever, shortness of breath, chronic cough, sore throat) or has been in contact with persons who have recently tested positive for Covid- 19.

To the extent possible, all litigants and their attorneys are still encouraged to file all documents electronically.

Additional hand sanitizing stations will remain available and all persons are encouraged to use them or wash their hands frequently.

While the Court has and will continue to follow the Covid-19 recommendations, the Court wants to provide a work environment where all employees and members of the public are safe. Any employee who is uncomfortable with these new guidelines should work with their department managers to consider reasonable accommodations.



Administrative Judge Jon H. Sieve,
Hamilton County Court of Common
Pleas -Division of Domestic Relations