

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

IN RE: POLICY ON MASKING AND
COURTHOUSE ENTRY DUE TO
COVID-19

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2022-09

The Court has continued to monitor the local and national conditions occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have made a number of recommendations including that all persons, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask in public or indoor settings in areas where COVID-19 Community Levels are high. In accordance with the COVID-19 Community Levels model, and other CDC guidance, and in order to maintain, to the extent possible, a safe environment for the public, for litigants, attorneys, court staff, and others within courthouse buildings in Nebraska:

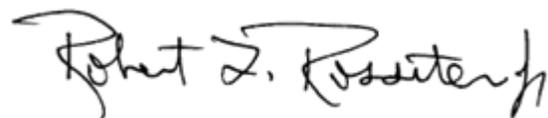
1. All persons in a federal courthouse in Nebraska shall wear a mask in public spaces in the courthouse when Community Levels are “high” based on the CDC’s COVID-19 County Check.
2. When Community Levels are “high,” signage will be posted at courthouse entrances and in lobbies and common areas directing that masks shall be worn by all persons accessing the buildings and all persons in public spaces of the buildings. Court Security Officers shall inform those entering the courthouse of this order and shall enforce it by excluding any person from the building who does not comply with its requirements, and shall provide any excluded person with a list of telephone numbers for the agencies in the building.
3. The following rules apply even when Community Levels are not “high”:
 - a. All persons who test positive for COVID-19 shall wait until their isolation period ends before entering a federal courthouse in Nebraska. Such persons shall wear a mask in public spaces in a federal courthouse

in Nebraska through Day Ten¹ after such positive test unless antigen testing shortens or extends that period. See Removing Your Mask.

- b. All persons who are sick and suspect that they have COVID-19 should test before entering a federal courthouse in Nebraska. If the test results are positive, such persons should follow the instructions in paragraph 3(a) above.
4. If any person cannot comply with the requirement to wear a mask because of a medical condition or for some other reasons, an exemption or accommodation may be considered, and if appropriate, authorized by the Court or by a responsible official of a tenant agency with whom the person has business. The Court or that official may, if necessary, inquire into the basis of the requested exemption or accommodation.
5. Nothing in this General Order prevents a presiding judge in a court proceeding from directing or permitting the use or removal of masks by participants in that proceeding.
6. This order rescinds General Order Number 2022-07.

Dated this 18th day of August 2022.

BY THE COURT:



Robert F. Rossiter, Jr.
Chief United States District Judge

¹Day 0 and Day 1 for purposes of computing isolation and masking requirements are as follows:

- If you test positive and had no symptoms, “Day 0” is the day you were tested (not when you received your results), and “Day 1” is the first full day following the day you were tested. Note: If you develop symptoms within ten days of when you were tested, “Day 0” starts on the date of symptoms onset.
- If you test positive and had symptoms, “Day 0” is the day of symptoms onset, regardless of when you tested positive. “Day 1” is the first full day after your symptoms started.