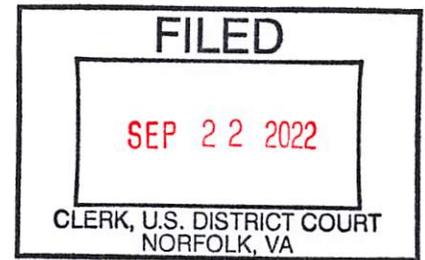


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA



In re:  
COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT  
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY THE OUTBREAK  
OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19):  
UPDATED ENTRY POLICY

Case No. 2:20mc7

General Order No. 2022-04

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia has continued to closely monitor the outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), as well as the developing guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state health authorities. Throughout the pandemic, the Court has relied on the guidance of health officials when determining which layered COVID-19 mitigation strategies best allow the Court to satisfy its constitutional responsibility to continue operations while at the same time protecting employees, judges, litigants, attorneys, jurors, stakeholders from other agencies, contractors, vendors, and members of the public that enter our Courthouses and Court facilities, to include those individuals ordered to appear.

In response to emerging CDC guidance and evolving community conditions, the Court has continued to review and modify employee and facility policies designed to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Most recently, the Court modified its internal employee quarantine policy governing COVID-19 exposures in order

to conform with updated CDC guidance. In conjunction with such internal policy update, the Court ended its practice of requiring unvaccinated Court employees and Court contractors to undergo routine COVID-19 testing. See Gen. Order 2021-12 (requiring twice weekly tests); Gen. Order 2022-02 (requiring once weekly tests).

Consistent with the recent update to the employee quarantine policy, the instant General Order adopts modified entry rules for our Courthouses and Court facilities such that members of the public will no longer be required to quarantine following a COVID-19 exposure. Instead, those exposed to a COVID-positive individual must wear a well-fitting high-quality mask while inside our facilities for 10 days following the exposure. The attached public notices reflect such change, as well as other minor modifications.

The Court will continue to monitor community conditions as well as updated CDC guidance to determine whether any future policy modifications are warranted.

It is so ORDERED.

/s/ 

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Mark S. Davis  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Norfolk, Virginia  
September 22, 2022



# ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

## PEOPLE EXPERIENCING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

You shall **NOT** enter the Courthouse if you are experiencing or have recently experienced any COVID-19 symptoms, including:

- a fever (100.4 degrees or greater);
- chills;
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- persistent cough;
- new loss of taste or smell; or
- other flu-like symptoms (*muscle or body aches, sore throat, headache, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea*).

### Entrance is permitted if:

- (1) at least five (5) days have passed since your symptoms first appeared; **and**
- (2) your symptoms (*other than loss of taste or smell, or a lingering cough*) have completely resolved; **and**
- (3) you have not had a fever, without using fever reducing medicine, for at least 24 hours.

***Please continue reading: COVID-19 infection and exposure rules, as well as Court contact numbers, are provided on the next page.***



## **Recent COVID-19 Infection**

You shall **NOT** enter the Courthouse **for 10 days** if you recently tested positive for COVID-19. If you had symptoms, "day 1" is the day after your symptoms started. If you did not have symptoms, "day 1" is the day after you were tested.

## **Recent COVID-19 Exposure**

If you were recently exposed to COVID-19 (*being within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes during a 24-hour period*), but have not tested positive and remain symptom free, you may enter, but you **must wear a well-fitting respirator (N-95, KN-95, KF-94) or a surgical mask for 10 days**. "Day 1" is the day after your last exposure.

**Anyone attempting to enter in violation of these protocols may be denied entry unless a case-specific exception is granted by the Chief Judge. If you are unable to appear for a Court proceeding, or any other matter, because of the restrictions in this Notice, you should contact:**

- The Judge's Chambers scheduled to handle the relevant proceeding;
- The Pretrial Services Office at (757) 222-7400;
- The Probation Office at (757) 222-7300;
- The Jury Department at (757) 222-7205;
- The District Court Clerk's Office at (757) 222-7201 for civil matters and at (757) 222-7202 for criminal matters;
- The Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office at (757) 222-7500; or
- For U.S. Court of Appeals matters, The Fourth Circuit Clerk's Office at (804) 916-2700.



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- The Judge's Chambers scheduled to handle the relevant proceeding;
- The Pretrial Services Office at (757) 223-4640;
- The Probation Office at (757) 223-4640;
- The Jury Department at (757) 222-7205;
- The District Court Clerk's Office at (757) 247-0784;
- The Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office at (757) 244-3678; or
- For U.S. Court of Appeals matters, The Fourth Circuit Clerk's Office at (804) 916-2700.



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- The Judge's Chambers scheduled to handle the relevant proceeding;
- The Pretrial Services Office at (804) 916-2800;
- The Probation Office at (804) 916-2500;
- The Jury Department at (804) 916-2212;
- The District Court Clerk's Office at (804) 916-2220 for civil matters and at (804) 916-2230 for criminal matters;
- The Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office at (804) 916-2400; or
- For U.S. Court of Appeals matters, The Fourth Circuit Clerk's Office at (804) 916-2700.



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- The Judge's Chambers scheduled to handle the relevant proceeding;
- The Pretrial Services Office at (703) 299-2250;
- The Probation Office at (703) 299-2300;
- The Jury Department at (703) 299-2104;
- The District Court Clerk's Office at (703) 299-2101 for civil matters and at (703) 299-2102 for criminal matters;
- The Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office at (703) 258-1200; or
- For U.S. Court of Appeals matters, The Fourth Circuit Clerk's Office at (804) 916-2700.