



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Office of the District Court Executive

LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN
Chief Judge

EDWARD A. FRIEDLAND
District Court Executive

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Persons
FROM: SDNY COVID-19 Response Team
DATE: March 13, 2023 (rev. April 15, 2022; April 28, 2022;
May 19, 2022; May 20, 2022; July 15, 2022)
SUBJECT: COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOLLOWING POSITIVE
DIAGNOSIS, SYMPTOMS OR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19

Effective today, the following COVID-19 Protocols apply to all those entering the courthouses.

For purposes of these protocols, Day 0 is the first day of symptoms or the day on which the individual's COVID-19 positive test specimen was collected, whichever was earlier. Day 1 is the first full day after symptoms developed or the test specimen was collected, whichever was earlier.

I was recently diagnosed with COVID-19.

If you tested positive for COVID-19 or were instructed by a health care provider to assume that you have COVID-19 due to symptoms and/or exposure, you must remain out of the courthouses at least through the end of Day 5. You may enter after Day 5 only if your symptoms are improving and you have been fever-free for the previous 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication. You must wear a well-fitting N95, KN95 or KF94 mask through the end of Day 10 in all spaces within the courthouses. (Testifying witnesses must remove their masks when testifying.)

I experienced symptoms of COVID-19 within the past 5 days, but I did not receive a positive diagnosis.

We strongly encourage those with fever, vomiting, diarrhea or shortness of breath to remain out of the courthouse until those symptoms have resolved.

I was in close contact¹ in the last 10 days with someone who has COVID-19.

- If the exposure is ongoing (i.e., you reside with the infected individual), you are strongly encouraged to do the following:
 - Wear a well-fitting N95, KN95 or KF94 mask in all spaces within the courthouses until at least 5 days have passed since the end of the infected individual’s isolation period.²
 - Take COVID-19 tests on the following: (i) Day 3; (ii) Day 5; and (iii) on the fifth day after the end of the infected individual’s isolation period.
- If the exposure is NOT ongoing (i.e., you do not reside with the infected individual) you are strongly encouraged to do the following:
 - Wear a well-fitting N95, KN95 or KF94 mask in all spaces within the courthouses at least until 10 days have passed since the exposure.³
 - Take COVID-19 tests on Day 3 and Day 5.

Any questions regarding the Court’s COVID-19 Protocols should be directed to the COVID-19 Response Team at Covid_Response@nysd.uscourts.gov.

¹ “Close contact” is defined as being less than 6 feet away from the infected person for a cumulative total of 10 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (e.g., two individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 10 minutes).

² “Isolation period” as used herein refers to either CDC isolation guidance or the isolation guidance provided by the individual’s health care provider.