

STATE OF ILLINOIS
CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO
COUNTY OF BOONE

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDER 1.03

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THE ABOVE ENTITLED GENERAL ORDER IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

1.03 Procedures for Contagious Conditions

For purposes of this Order, “fully vaccinated” means being two weeks past the final vaccine injection. The Court enacts the following procedures with respect to minimizing the spread of contagious conditions within the Courthouse:

1. Pursuant to the Order of the Illinois Supreme Court in M.R. 30370, no individual may enter any courthouse or court facility if they:
 - a. Have new flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, or shortness of breath (excluding such symptoms caused by chronic conditions);
 - b. Currently have been directed to quarantine or isolate at home by any medical provider or public health official; or
 - c. Reside or have regular close contact with a person currently subject to a quarantine or isolation direction issued by a medical provider or public health official and are not themselves fully vaccinated.

If unable to attend a court hearing due to any of the above restrictions, individuals are strongly encouraged to call the appropriate office of the Circuit Clerk to report your situation and for instructions on how to proceed:

Winnebago County Circuit Clerk 815-319-4500

Boone County Circuit Clerk 815-544-0371

These restrictions shall not apply to any individual ~~summonsed~~ **summoned** to appear in court as a named respondent in a petition filed under Section 2 of the Department of Public Health Act, 20 ILCS 2305/2 (see procedural requirements in section 4 below).

2. All court staff, attorneys and members of the public must wear a face covering or mask while within any court facility. Failure to wear a mask may lead to removal from the building. These provisions do not apply to any individual under age 2, incapacitated, having trouble breathing, or unable to remove the mask without assistance, or fully vaccinated.

The Court will not routinely screen persons in the courthouse to determine their vaccination status, but it reserves the right to inquire as to any person's vaccination status and/or to require proof thereof. An attorney's election not to wear a mask will be interpreted as a representation to the Court under Supreme Court Rule 3.3 that the attorney has been fully vaccinated.

Persons required to speak in the course of a court proceeding may be directed to remove a face covering or mask when speaking. Judges may choose not to wear a face covering or mask in court if they are able to maintain six-foot separation.

3. Within all court facilities, all individuals, including judges, court staff, attorneys, and jurors, ~~shall~~ **should attempt to** maintain at least six-foot social distancing from other individuals unless fully vaccinated. ~~All court staff shall monitor and proactively enforce compliance with social distancing requirements.~~
4. If a petition is filed seeking a court order under Section 2 of the Department of Public Health Act, 20 ILCS 2305/2, the following procedures are required:
 - a. Such a hearing may be held remotely, either off courthouse premises or via telephonic or video hearing pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 185.
 - b. For a hearing held on courthouse premises, the respondent in such a matter may be required to wear a mask or other protective device or clothing as ordered by the court, and shall be so advised in the notice of hearing or summons issued by the attorney filing the petition.
 - c. Because proceedings under 20 ILCS 2305/2 deal with sensitive matters of personal health, the Court authorizes the filing of such cases under the respondent's pseudonym (e.g., "John Doe,") rather than his or her full name.

ENTER: _____


Eugene G. Doherty, Chief Judge

DATED: 7/28/21