

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

IN RE: ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

REVISED PANDEMIC
MASKING REQUIREMENTS

No. 2022 - 3

ORDER

In response to changes to Centers for Disease Control guidance and positive developments in the COVID-19 community infection rates within the District,

IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to the authority granted to the Chief Judge presiding over a primary courthouse building and pursuant to the approval granted by the Facility Security Committee governing multi-tenant facilities, fully vaccinated¹ individuals are no longer required to wear a mask within the Russell B. Long Federal Building and United States Courthouse and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court (“the Courthouses”). In order to unmask, individuals having business in the Courthouses must provide proof of vaccination upon entry. Acceptable forms of proof of vaccination include the Centers for Disease Control’s (CDC’s) COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card issued by the vaccine provider or, for attorneys and others permitted to enter the Courthouses with personal electronic devices, the SMART Health Card record that can be found in the LA Wallet application for mobile devices. If proof of vaccination is not provided upon

¹ “Fully vaccinated” is defined as two weeks after receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) or the single-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson).

entry, the individual must wear a mask at all times in the Courthouses. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated shall be required to wear masks. Anyone who fails or refuses to comply will be required to leave the Courthouses immediately. This Order does not prohibit individuals from electing to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.

Court Unit Executives (CUE) and judicial officers shall make operational decisions regarding the means and manner of the operations of their respective units and chambers, including but not limited to employee telework and decisions regarding mask wearing within CUE offices, chambers and courtrooms. The Court and CUEs may require proof of vaccination as may be deemed appropriate to protect the health and safety of unvaccinated employees and others.

All employees and individuals having business in the Courthouses shall observe all posted signs and placards, regardless of vaccination status.

This Order rescinds and supersedes Administrative Order 2021-5 and shall remain in effect until further Order of this Court or until rescinded.

SO ORDERED on March 15, 2022

FOR THE COURT:



SHELLY D. DICK, CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA