

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
CRIMINAL DIVISION - LAW**

**IN RE: ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-13** | **No.: C-48-AD-95-2021**

**Pa.R.J.A. 1952 – JUDICIAL EMERGENCY**

2021 JUL -1 P 12:14  
CLERK OF COURT  
CRIMINAL DIVISION  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PA

FILED

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**AND NOW**, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2021, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Order dated June 21, 2021, a copy of which is attached, it is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

1. The suspension of Pennsylvania Rule of Criminal Procedure 600(C) expires on August 31, 2021, rather than on September 30, 2021.<sup>1</sup>
2. All provisions regarding the use of audio-visual communication in Section II of Administrative Order 2021-8 shall cease on July 6, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See *In Re: General Statewide Judicial Emergency, No. 553 Judicial Administration Docket* (Pa. June 21, 2021). Administrative Order 2021-8 suspended Rule 600(C) through September 30, 2021. See *In Re: Administrative Order 2021-8*, No. C-48-AD-78-2021 (C.P. Northampton Co. May 18, 2021). However, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's June 21, 2021 Order, Rule 600(C) may only be suspended until August 31, 2021. See *In Re: General Statewide Judicial Emergency*.

<sup>2</sup> See *In Re: Administrative Order 2021-8* at Section II.

3. The provisions in Administrative Order 2021-8 requiring social distancing and the wearing of face masks shall expire immediately.<sup>3</sup>
4. All other provisions regarding non-jury trials and Miscellaneous Court in Administrative Order 2021-8 shall remain unchanged.<sup>4</sup>

To the extent that this Administrative Order conflicts with Administrative Order 2021-8, this Administrative Order shall govern.

**BY THE COURT:**

  
**MICHAEL J. KOURY, JR.**  
**PRESIDENT JUDGE**

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<sup>3</sup> See *In Re: Administrative Order 2021-8* at Section V. On June 28, 2021, the Pennsylvania Department of Health lifted its prior Order requiring individuals to wear face masks. See *Department Of Health Lifting Universal Masking Order On June 28, Urging Pennsylvanians To Follow Mask-Wearing Guidance Where Required*, PA MEDIA (June 25, 2021), <https://www.media.pa.gov/Pages/Health-Details.aspx?newsid=1505> (lifting prior Order); see also *Department Of Health: Adult Vaccinations On Track; Mask Order To Be Lifted By June 28*, PA MEDIA (May 27, 2021), <https://www.media.pa.gov/pages/health-details.aspx?newsid=1469> (announcing that Commonwealth's mask order will be lifted June 28, 2021, or when at least seventy percent of adults receive their second vaccine dose, whichever comes first).

<sup>4</sup> See *In Re: Administrative Order 2021-8* at Sections III-IV.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: GENERAL STATEWIDE  
JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

: No. 553 Judicial Administration Docket

[illegible]

ORDER

PER CURIAM

**AND NOW**, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2021, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Effective July 6, 2021, operation of the Unified Judicial System shall return to pre-pandemic status. All courtrooms, adjacent judicial facilities, chambers, and offices within the Unified Judicial System shall be fully opened and staffed by judges and other personnel.

This Court's order of May 27, 2020, terminated the statewide judicial emergency effective June 1, 2020, but authorized president judges to declare local judicial emergencies. Effective today, president judges are no longer authorized to declare local judicial emergencies. Notwithstanding, to the extent declarations of local judicial emergencies are in effect suspending the rule-based right of criminal defendants to a prompt trial, they may remain in effect until August 31, 2021.

A True Copy Patricia Nicola  
As Of 06/21/2021

Attest: Patricia Nicola  
Chief Clerk  
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania