

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

IN RE: ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-16 | No.: C-48-AD-145-2021

Pa.R.J.A. 1952 – JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

FILED
2021 AUG -5 P 1:11
CLERK OF COURT
CRIMINAL DIVISION
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

AND NOW, this 5th day of August, 2021, pursuant to (1) recent CDC guidance¹; and (2) Pennsylvania Rule of Judicial Administration 1952, in order to balance the public's compelling interest in securing access to judicial services and the mandate of Pennsylvania Rule of Judicial Administration 1952(B)(2) to "take necessary action to provide for the . . . safety of court personnel, court users and the public . . . ," it is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

1. All court employees under the supervision and authority of the President Judge, irrespective of COVID-19 vaccination status, who enter any courtroom or court facility under the supervision and authority of the

¹ CDC guidance, issued on July 27, 2021, states: "If you've been fully vaccinated: . . . To reduce the risk of being infected with the Delta variant and possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission." *When You've Been Fully Vaccinated*, CDC (July 27, 2021), <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html> (discussing new guidance) (emphasis added). As of August 5, 2021, CDC data states that the level of community transmission in Northampton County is "high." *COVID-19 Integrated County View*, CDC (Aug. 5, 2021), <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view> (displaying community transmission data).

President Judge, including all Magisterial District Courts, the Office of Court Administration, the Domestic Relations Building, the Juvenile Justice Center, and the offices of Adult Probation and Pretrial Services, shall wear a mask which covers the mouth and nose, irrespective of physical distance from other individuals.

2. Masks shall be made and worn in accordance with CDC guidelines found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>. Notwithstanding the foregoing, masks shall not be required for individuals who cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition (including children under the age of two).
3. Irrespective of vaccination status, the following individuals are prohibited from entering any courtroom or court facility under the supervision and authority of the President Judge, including all Magisterial District Courts, the Office of Court Administration, the Domestic Relations Building, the Juvenile Justice Center, and the offices of Adult Probation and Pretrial Services:
 - Have been directed to quarantine, isolate or self-monitor at home for the coronavirus by any doctor, hospital or health agency; or
 - Have been diagnosed with COVID-19; or
 - Have flu-like symptoms; or
 - Are not wearing a mask in accordance with ¶ 2 above.

To the extent that this Administrative Order conflicts with Administrative Order 2021-13, this Administrative Order shall govern. This Administrative Order is effective August 6, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. until further Order of Court.

BY THE COURT:



CRAIG A. DALLY
ACTING PRESIDENT JUDGE