

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

IN RE: ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2022-9

No.: C-48-AD-230-2022

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

AND NOW, this 21st day of October, 2022, it is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

1. Pursuant to CDC guidelines, residents, employees, and visitors to the Northampton County Juvenile Justice Center, including juvenile detention and treatment, must wear masks irrespective of vaccination status.¹ Juvenile probation officers, including those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, are required to wear masks when present in the Juvenile Justice Center or when in contact with residents of the Juvenile Justice Center. Additionally, irrespective of vaccination status, all individuals who enter a courtroom in which a resident of the Juvenile Justice Center and/or treatment center is present must wear a mask in accordance with paragraph 2 below.

¹ See *Interim Guidance on Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Correctional and Detention Facilities*, CDC (last updated June 9, 2021), <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/correction-detention/guidance-correctional-detention.html#Overview> (directing all individuals in correctional and detention facilities to wear masks).

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).²
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.

² The Pennsylvania Department of Health has not had a mandatory mask order in place since June 28, 2021. See *Coronavirus FAQs, What's the rule on face masks in Pennsylvania?*, PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/FAQs.aspx> (last visited Nov. 19, 2021) ("The order requiring universal face coverings was lifted statewide at 12:01 am on Monday, June 28."). Additionally, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has not adopted a statewide rule regarding the wearing of masks, leaving discretion to each President Judge.

To the extent that this Administrative Order conflicts with Administrative Order 2021-20, this Administrative Order shall govern. This Administrative Order is effective on October 24, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. until further Order of Court.

BY THE COURT:



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