

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

IN THE MATTER OF:

General Order No. 2020-18

FACE COVERINGS OR MASKS IN
PUBLIC AREAS OF COURTHOUSES
DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

GENERAL ORDER

This Order SUPPLEMENTS General Order 2020-05, General Order 2020-06, General Order 2020-07, General Order 2020-10, and General Order 2020-14B. To the extent this Order differs from those Orders, this Order supersedes and replaces those Orders.

The Court continues to monitor the status of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States of America and specifically within the Northern District of Indiana. The Court continues to consider guidance from a variety of sources including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as federal, state, and local public health authorities. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other public health authorities have advised entities to take precautions to slow the spread of COVID-19, including recommending the use of face coverings or masks in public settings. It is necessary to institute a policy on the use of face coverings or masks for individuals entering the courthouses.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that effective immediately, all persons seeking entry to or occupying the courthouses of this District must wear a face covering or mask in the public areas of the courthouses; this includes the lobby, elevator banks, restrooms, public corridors, and, unless excused by the presiding judge, courtrooms. The face covering or mask must always completely conceal the wearer's nose and mouth. Employees working in a private office or workspace that permits at least six feet of physical distance from other persons may temporarily remove the face covering or mask while in that location. The only persons excepted from this requirement are those who provide documentation that they are unable, for medical reasons, to wear a face covering or mask.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any visitor seeking entry into a courthouse without a mask will be offered a free disposable mask at the security screening station if they do not have a mask and have a need to enter the courthouse.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person found to have violated this Order may be held in contempt of Court, cited, and/or expelled from the courthouses until an order of the Chief Judge, upon petition, reinstates access to the courthouses.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any criminal defendant that is in custody must wear a face covering or mask at all times when the defendant is transported for a hearing. This requirement

applies at all times from when a defendant is picked up at the detention facility until the defendant is returned to the facility, including while the defendant is at the courthouse, except at the discretion of the presiding judge while the defendant is in the courtroom. The United States Marshals Service should not transport any defendant who refuses to comply with this requirement.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order is in effect until further order of the Court.

Dated this 1st day of June 2020.

/s/ Jon E. DeGuilio
Jon E. DeGuilio, Chief Judge

/s/ William C. Lee
William C. Lee, Judge

/s/ James T. Moody
James T. Moody, Judge

/s/ Robert L. Miller, Jr.
Robert L. Miller, Jr., Judge

/s/ Philip P. Simon
Philip P. Simon, Judge

/s/ Theresa L. Springmann
Theresa L. Springmann, Judge

/s/ Joseph S. Van Bokkelen
Joseph S. Van Bokkelen, Judge

/s/ Holly A. Brady
Holly A. Brady, Judge

/s/ Damon R. Leichty
Damon R. Leichty, Judge