

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

IN THE MATTER OF:

General Order No. 2022-07

FACE MASKS NOT REQUIRED IF THE
MEASURED COMMUNITY
LEVEL OF COVID-19 IS LOW OR MEDIUM

GENERAL ORDER

This Order SUPPLEMENTS General Orders 2021-16, 2021-20, and 2021-23. To the extent this Order differs from those Orders, this Order supersedes and replaces those Orders.

As COVID-19 cases resulting in serious illness and death have decreased, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities have revised their guidance on the necessity of face coverings. The CDC now examines COVID-19 Community Levels ([COVID-19 Community Levels](#)) which measures the impact of COVID-19 on health and healthcare systems and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. Current guidance indicates that most individuals can resume indoor activities without wearing a face covering in counties with Low or Medium COVID-19 Community Levels. Upon consideration of this updated public health guidance, the Court finds it appropriate to allow persons to enter and occupy the public spaces of the federal courthouses in the Northern District of Indiana without wearing a face covering or mask if the courthouse is located within a county that has a Low or Medium COVID-19 Community Level. The United States General Services Administration (GSA) will monitor the COVID-19 Community Level, and take appropriate action.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that if a courthouse is located within a county that has a Low or Medium COVID-19 Community Level, as determined by the CDC, any person entering or occupying the courthouse is not required to wear a face covering or mask. However, upon entering courtrooms, Judges' chambers and offices, or any space where a court proceeding is being conducted, all persons must comply with the rules and requirements of the presiding Judge regarding face coverings.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if a courthouse is located within a county that has a High COVID-19 Community Level, as determined by the CDC, persons seeking entry to or occupying the courthouse must wear a face covering or mask in the public areas of the

courthouse regardless of vaccination status; this includes the lobby, elevator banks, restrooms, public corridors, publicly accessible areas of space occupied by tenants of the courthouse and, unless excused by the presiding judge, courtrooms. 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.

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. This Order is in effect until further order of the Court.

Dated this 7th day of March 2022.

/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