

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PAULDING COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

**ORDER REQUIRING FACE MASKS OR FACIAL COVERINGS FOR ENTRY INTO  
THE PAULDING COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER**

WHEREAS, the Governor has determined that a Public Health State of Emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19, and whereas the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has determined that the state of emergency constitutes a “judicial emergency” pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-60 et seq., see O.C.G.A. § 38-3-60(2), and whereas this Court has adopted the Paulding Judicial Circuit Coronavirus Health and Safety Guidelines which are attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit “A.”

Now therefore, it is hereby ordered effective Monday, July 6, 2020, that all persons visiting the Paulding County Justice Center, including vendors, contractors, litigants, attorneys, courthouse staff, and other members of the public shall be required to wear face masks or facial coverings over their noses and mouths during their visits to common or public areas of the justice center, including entryways, hallways, lobbies, courtrooms (except as specifically directed by the presiding judge), and common office areas. In addition to completing temperature screenings and the Sheriff’s Courthouse COVID-19 Health Checklist to allow entry to the justice center, the Sheriff shall not permit entry to the justice center to any person who is not wearing a face mask or facial covering over their nose and mouth. Any visitor seeking entry without a face covering, who is unable to supply their own face covering, may be offered a disposable mask at the security screening checkpoint.

Although the public is encouraged to avoid unnecessary in-person trips to the justice center, including bringing small children to the justice center, per CDC Guidelines, face masks or facial coverings are not required or recommended on children under the age of 2 years.

This temporary action is taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to further safeguard the health and safety of everyone visiting and working in the justice center. This entry requirement and the Paulding Judicial Circuit Coronavirus Health and Safety Guidelines will remain in place for the duration the public health state of emergency, statewide declaration of judicial emergency, whichever is later, or until further order of the court.

So ORDERED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2020.



Tony S. Beavers, Chief Judge  
Superior Court of Paulding County  
Paulding Judicial Circuit

FILED IN OFFICE  
PAULDING COUNTY, GA  
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SHEILA M. BUTLER, CLERK  
PAULDING COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT

Exhibit “A”  
to  
Order Requiring Face Masks or Facial  
Coverings for Entry into the Paulding County  
Justice Center



**PAULDING JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
**CORONAVIRUS HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES**

**1. ALL VISITORS:**

All visitors **MUST** wear a face mask.

Upon entering, you will be asked to complete a brief safety questionnaire and submit to a temperature check.

Also upon entering, please clean your hands. This can be done at one of the hand sanitizer stations located on each floor, or you can proceed to a restroom to wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.

Cough or sneeze into your elbow or use a tissue to cover it, and then discard the tissue.

Stay at least 6 feet apart from others.

**2. DO NOT ENTER IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING APPLIES TO YOU:**

If any of the following apply to you, please do not enter. If this prevents you from attending a hearing, please inform your attorney or the Court immediately.

You have been diagnosed or exposed to anyone with Covid 19/Coronavirus within the last two weeks.

You are experiencing sickness, headache, sore throat, chills, or shaking.

You are experiencing muscle pain.

You have a fever.

You have a cough, shortness of breath, or trouble breathing.

You have persistent pain or pressure in the chest.

You are experiencing confusion.

You have bluish lips of face.

You have recently developed a loss of taste or smell

### **3. IF YOU ARE HIGH RISK:**

Persons at high risk of severe illness from Covid-19 (including those who are 65 or older, live in a nursing home or long-term care facility, have an underlying health or medical condition, have severe obesity, or have other conditions considered to place them at high risk) should:

1. Consider requesting a videoconference hearing rather than an in-person hearing, or
2. Request special protections/accommodations while in court.

### **4. COURT PERSONNEL:**

Rooms open to the public should be clean and disinfected at least twice daily.

Frequently touched items must be disinfected regularly.

Should the occupancy of any area reach the point that people cannot remain at least 6 feet apart, inform the presiding judge or sheriff's office personnel immediately.

Report to the presiding judge or sheriff's office anyone having the symptoms listed below under Section 2.

Personally follow all guidelines listed herein above.

Only one case at a time shall be handled in each courtroom.