

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

USDC DNJ DOCUMENT ELECTRONICALLY FILED DOC #: DATE FILED: <u>September 17, 2020</u>
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IN RE: COVID-19 PROTOCOL FOR \_\_\_\_\_ :  
ENTRANTS TO ALL DNJ COURTHOUSES:       **STANDING ORDER 2020-14**

**WHEREAS**, a National Emergency has been declared and the Governor of the State of New Jersey has also declared a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities have advised taking precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and to slow the spread of the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to government policy, CDC guidelines and public health advancements, the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey (“Court”) has adopted the District of New Jersey COVID-19 Recovery Guidelines (“Recovery Guidelines”), providing for a phased approach to reconstituting operations; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the CDC’s recommendation, based upon data on the spread of COVID-19, the Recovery Guidelines establish a Face Covering/Mask Protocol, requiring employees to wear a face covering or mask to cover their noses and mouths in community settings, in order to protect themselves and others nearby; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to all of the above, the Court entered Standing Order 2020-13, “In Re: Use of Face Coverings/Masks Due to COVID-19,” providing that all persons seeking entry to or occupying any Court facility in the District of New Jersey must wear a face covering or mask when in a community setting, and also engage in six-foot social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to increased rates of COVID-19 transmission in certain states within the United States (“hotspot states”), the State of New Jersey has issued a travel advisory, asking those persons entering New Jersey from a hotspot state to self-quarantine for 14 days upon their arrival in New Jersey; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in order to further public health and safety,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the following persons may not enter any Courthouse in the District of New Jersey:

- Persons who have been advised to self-quarantine by any doctor, hospital or other health professional within the last 14 days;
- Persons who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or told to presume they have COVID-19 by a health professional within the last 14 days;

- Persons who have had contact within the last 14 days with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or told to presume they have COVID-19 by a health professional, unless the diagnosis was more than 14 days ago and the person diagnosed has been symptom-free for the past 72 hours;
- Persons who have had cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, or extreme fatigue within the last 14 days, unless the symptoms are attributable to a known condition other than COVID-19;
- Persons who reside with someone who has had cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, or extreme fatigue within the last 14 days, unless the symptoms are attributable to a known condition other than COVID-19;
- Persons who have returned to New Jersey from a hotspot state, international travel, or cruise ship or river voyage within the past 14 days;
- Persons who have been released from federal, state or local jail, prison or other detention facility within the last 14 days, except those who are reporting at the direction of the Court, U.S. Pretrial Services or U.S. Probation Office; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any persons attempting to enter in violation of the above restrictions will be denied entry by the U.S. Marshals Service; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any persons having business in one of the Courthouses of the District of New Jersey but who cannot enter because of this Order should do the following:

- Persons who are represented by an attorney should contact their attorney;
- Attorneys or pro se litigants who are scheduled to appear in court before a judge should contact that judge's chambers directly (contact information may be found on the Court's public webpage, [www.njd.uscourts.gov](http://www.njd.uscourts.gov));
- Persons who are scheduled to meet with a Pretrial Services Officer should contact the Office of Pretrial Services: Camden (856) 757-5107; Newark (973) 645-2230; Trenton (609) 989-2056;
- Persons who are scheduled to meet with a Probation Officer should contact the Probation Office: Camden (856) 757-5043; Newark (973) 645-4240; Trenton (609) 989-2071;
- Jurors should contact the Jury Department: Camden (856) 757-5039; Newark (973) 645-3499; Trenton (609) 989-2141;
- Employees reporting to work at any of the Courthouses should contact their supervisor;

- Persons having any other business with the District of New Jersey should contact the Clerk's Office: Camden (856)757-5021; Newark (973) 645-3730; Trenton (609) 989-2065;
- Persons having business with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court should contact the Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office: Camden (856) 361-2300; Newark (973) 645-4764; Trenton (609) 858-9333; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that every person who comes to any of the Courthouses of the District of New Jersey for any reason must pass through the following entry screening process:

- Wear a mask or face covering that covers the person's nose and mouth. If a person does not have a mask or face covering, a disposable mask will be provided.
- Apply hand sanitizer, which will be available at all Courthouse entrances; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that while in the Courthouse, all persons must comply with the following rules, which are consistent with the Court's Standing Order 2020-13:


- **Mask or Face Covering:** You must wear a mask or face covering that covers your nose and mouth in all public areas of the Courthouse (including hallways, public counters, elevators, and courtrooms).
- **Social Distancing:** You must adhere to safe social distancing rules, by standing or sitting at least six feet away from other individuals. You must abide by markings on floors and benches indicating where you may stand or sit. If you are standing in line, you must keep six feet away from the person in front of you and behind you, unless you are taking care of a small child or assisting someone with special needs. Elevator capacity will be limited as posted. All elevator occupants must wear a mask or face covering.
- **Instructional Signage:** You must abide by all health and hygiene signage throughout the Courthouses, including signage regarding masks and face coverings, social distancing, occupancy restrictions, and hand washing; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any person who fails or refuses to abide by the above rules will be required to leave the Courthouse immediately; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the U.S. Marshal, his Deputies and the Court Security Officers shall enforce this Order; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** this Order will remain in place until further Order of the Court.

DATED: 9/17/2020

  
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Hon. Freda L. Wolfson  
U.S. Chief District Judge  
District of New Jersey