

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Administrative Order

2020-PR-090

Re: Requiring Masks in Appellate and District Courts

FILED

JUL 02 2020

DOUGLAS T. SHIMA
CLERK OF APPELLATE COURTS

Effective at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 3, 2020, this order updates operating requirements for district and appellate courts.

Kansas district and appellate courts, whether operating under 2020-PR-076 or 2020-PR-049, are required to comply with any order issued by the Kansas Governor or more restrictive provisions issued by an authority listed in those administrative orders, when applicable. This order provides that to protect the health and safety of court users, staff, and judicial officers, Kansas district and appellate courts will adhere to Governor Laura Kelly's Executive Order No. 20-52, despite that Executive Order's exemption of court-related proceedings held or managed by the Kansas Judiciary. In addition to the other exemptions listed in numbered paragraph 3 of Executive Order No. 20-52, the following exception will apply to district and appellate courts:

Upon request or on the court's own motion, a judge may enter an order authorizing a waiver of Executive Order No. 20-52 within the courtroom or other hearing room over which that judge is presiding. But the judge, including a judge operating in a court under 2020-PR-049, must enforce the requirements provided in 2020-PR-076, numbered paragraph 4, or have physical shields in place.

Absent this exception, employees, judicial officers, and members of the public must comply with Executive Order No. 20-52, and amendments thereto, while in courtrooms, court offices, or any other facility being used by the court for a proceeding.

This administrative order applies regardless of whether a county's county commissioners have exercised authority granted by K.S.A. 48-925 as amended by 2020 Spec. Sess. House Bill 2016, Sec. 33(h).

In addition to the requirements of 2020-PR-076 and 2020-PR-049, as applicable, masks are required in nonpublic court offices where two or more individuals are present, unless physical shields are in place between individuals.

Dated this 2nd day of July 2020. This order is effective at 12:01 a.m. on July 3, 2020.

FOR THE COURT



MARLA LUCKERT
Chief Justice