

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

IN RE: NOVEL CORONAVIRUS
AND COVID-19 DISEASE

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COURTROOM PLAN FOR
IN-PERSON PROCEEDINGS

WHEREAS, the evolving circumstances presented by the spread of the novel coronavirus and COVID-19 disease have resulted in the Court developing, adopting and implementing a plan outlining measures to limit the transmission of COVID-19 to staff, counsel, parties and other participants in in-person proceedings; and,

WHEREAS, by Administrative Order dated November 6, 2020, the Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court has directed that each court publish its written plan of operations.

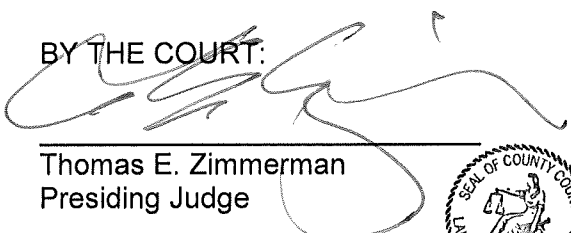
NOW, THEREFORE, the Court hereby directs and orders that the following measures (the "Plan") shall be employed in its courtrooms until further order of the Court:

1. Masks or other suitable face coverings which completely cover and conceal the nose and mouth shall continue to be required by all persons entering the courtrooms. See separate Administrative Order Regarding the Wearing of Face Masks dated June 23, 2020, still in effect.
2. Distancing of at least six feet (6') between persons shall be practiced as much as practicable. In this connection, each courtroom has had delineated with blue-taped Xs and/or yellow tape the seated spacing to be followed by participants as well as blue Xs and/or lines designating where to stand as determined by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.
3. Hand sanitizer and/or sanitary wipes shall be provided in each courtroom for use by all who enter. In this connection, court personnel are directed to regularly sanitize highly touched surfaces and areas.
4. Only the judge, court staff, litigants, parents or guardians in the case of minor or incompetent litigants and their attorneys shall be admitted to the courtrooms unless particular circumstances warrant and specific permission is granted by the judge presiding over that proceeding.
5. Use of telephonic and videoconferencing hearing options shall be implemented and liberally granted as allowed by statute or by agreement of the parties. Video kiosks have been provided in the public hallway for non-participants to view proceedings via Zoom and Zoom links to all courtrooms shall be published for off-site viewing.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 12th day of November, 2020.

BY THE COURT:


Thomas E. Zimmerman
Presiding Judge

