

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

IN RE: ORDER ON COURT PROCEEDINGS     )  
      IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19            )  
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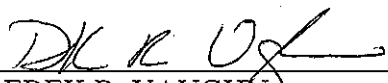
**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE  
OF DOUGLAS COUNTY,  
NEBRASKA**

The Douglas County Court continues to ensure the continuity of operations while monitoring and complying with directives from local, state, and federal governments. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on February 25, 2022, has advised that all persons, regardless of vaccination status or individual risk, wear face coverings in indoor public areas where COVID-19 Community Levels are high. Douglas County’s Community Levels are currently low. In accordance with protecting public safety by mitigating the public health impact of COVID-19, the following changes will be effective immediately, unless otherwise noted:

1. The wearing of masks will be optional. The Court will no longer require anyone to wear a mask.
2. The Court will remove any COVID-related Courtroom capacity restrictions put in place by any previous Administrative Order.
3. The 24-Hour Rule will be strictly and uniformly enforced. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved by the Presiding Judge or Designee.
4. The Court will remove the requirement for Transportation Orders. The Court will arrange transport for all in-custody individuals for Courtrooms 625, 226, 227 and for sentencings.
5. The Court will continue the 10:00am pleas at the Jail Courtroom for only agreed upon sentences and time and cost pleas only. Counsel may only schedule agreed-upon Probation sentences if the assigned Judge is presiding in the Jail Courtroom on that scheduled date.
6. All in-custody Probation pleas and bond reviews shall go before the assigned Judge. These cases will no longer be heard in the Jail Courtroom.
7. Effective May 1, 2022, the Court will no longer accept any Request for Hearing Forms. Counsel will be required to Efile any Motions. Self-Represented Individuals are exempted from the Efiling requirements and court staff will provide those individuals an AOC-approved Generic Motion Form.
8. This Order shall be followed in conjunction with the Administrative Order of Chief Justice Heavican issued on May 21, 2021.
9. Any prior Administrative Order that is in conflict with this Order shall be rescinded at this time.
10. The Court will continue to monitor conditions and update Orders as needed.

DATED this 28 date of March, 2022.

BY THE COURT:

  
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DEREK R. VAUGHN  
Presiding Judge