IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF ILLINOIS

FILED

MAY 29 2020 40

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Sangamon County Administrative Order 2020-11
Sangamon County Courthouse Procedures for COVID-19 Coronavirus

WHEREAS, The Sangamon County Courts will take all reasonable measures to minimize personal contact to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Whereas, The Illinois Supreme Court has published the *Supreme Court Guidelines for Resuming Illinois Judicial Branch Operations During the Covid-19 Pandemic*, which requires court personnel to "Notify all entering the courthouse that wearing a mask/face covering is required (consistent with current public health requirements)".

Whereas, the State of Illinois has established and implemented a 5 Phase recovery plan imposing certain public health requirements upon its citizens when engaging in public activity in public locations, including the requirement to wear facial coverings when social distancing is impracticable as a part of Phase 3, which is the phase that this state is currently in as of the entry of the order.

Whereas, the configuration of the Sangamon County Complex, when courthouse and county building visitors are present in moderate numbers, will create circumstances in the entry lobby, at the elevator bank, in the elevators, and in courtroom areas that make compliance with all social distancing guidelines impracticable.

Whereas, Sangamon County court operations are expanding on June 1, 2020, which, despite concerted efforts to minimize physical appearances for many court proceedings, will result in a sizeable increase in daily courthouse traffic that will reach and surpass moderate numbers at peak times throughout the day that will create congestion with the potential to make social distancing impractical as indicated.

Whereas, whereas certain physical and mental health conditions can be exacerbated by the wearing of facial coverings for members of the population afflicted with particular ailments or who have been exposed to past traumas.

Whereas, public health officials have recommended that children 2 years and younger not wear facial coverings.

WHEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that, beginning June 1, 2020 and continuing until further order of the court, facial coverings will be required to be worn by anyone entering the Sangamon County Complex for any purpose, and the covering shall be worn in a manner that prevents the mouth and nasal openings from exposure to direct air particles. Said covering shall be effectively worn until such time as the person can safely engage in social distancing recommendations within the building.

Exemption for pre-existing medical condition: Nothing in this order shall require anyone otherwise subject to the provisions of this order to wear a facial covering as directed when doing so would be contrary to their health or safety resulting from a pre-existing medical condition.

Exemption for children: Nothing in this order shall require children two and under to wear facial coverings as directed.

ENTERED THIS 29th DAY OF May, 2020.

JOHN M. MADONIA
Presiding Judge