

**In the Thirty-Eighth Judicial Circuit of Alabama  
Jackson County Circuit Court**

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER: 2021-26

PERTAINING TO APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO REDUCE THE RISK  
OF COVID-19 EXPOSURE AND INFECTION

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

In the three months since Administrative Order Number 2021-24 [mandating the wearing of masks in the public areas of the Second Floor of the Jackson County Courthouse] was entered on August 1, 2021, the positivity rate for COVID-19 has declined sharply in the United States and Alabama generally, and in Jackson County particularly.

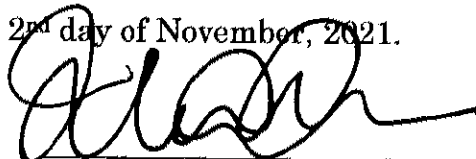
Therefore, effective immediately, Administrative Order Number 2021-24 is amended as follows:

1. Subject to further order of the court, the mandatory masking requirements of Administrative Order Number 2021-24 are **RESCINDED**.
2. Masks are suggested and requested in all public areas of the Second Floor of the Jackson County Courthouse, but are not required.
3. Individual officeholders are authorized to continue requiring masking within their own offices or not.
4. Courtrooms shall continue to have designated seating to maintain a six (6) foot separation while persons are present in those courtrooms.
5. Any person who is ill or experiencing any respiratory issues or fever regardless of suspected COVID-19 or coronavirus or other infection or illness shall not attend any court hearing, trial or proceeding. Attorneys shall inquire as to their clients' and witnesses' current health, and if they are experiencing any symptoms or are currently diagnosed with COVID-19, attorneys or parties or witnesses shall notify the court before the hearing.
6. The courts and attorneys are strongly encouraged to continue using videoconferencing through the secure AlaCourt virtual hearing Zoom application when possible and where allowed by law to avoid in-person hearings.

7. This order shall remain in effect until it is vacated or until December 31, 2021, whichever event shall first occur.

The Clerk shall spread this order on the minutes of the court and supply copies to all affected parties, the Director of the Jackson County Emergency Management Agency, members of the Jackson County Bar Association, the Administrative Director of Courts and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama.

**DONE and ORDERED** this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2021.



**JOHN H. GRAHAM**  
**PRESIDING CIRCUIT JUDGE**

STATE OF ALABAMA  
I CERTIFY THIS  
INSTRUMENT WAS FILED  
2021 NOV -2 PM 3:23  
BART BUCHANAN  
CIRCUIT CLERK