

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

IN THE MATTER OF:  
COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT  
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19  
AND RELATED CORONAVIRUS

## GENERAL ORDER

On March 18, 2020 and March 20, 2020, the Court issued General Orders closing all Courthouses in the Southern District of Indiana to the public, finding that closure was warranted in light of the risks presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. To the extent this Order differs from previous orders of the Court on this subject, this Order supersedes and replaces those Orders.

### **I. Courthouses Open to the Public July 6, 2020**

The Facility Security Committees for the Birch Bayh Federal Building and United States Courthouse, the Lee H. Hamilton Federal Building and United States Courthouse, the Winfield K. Denton Federal Building and United States Courthouse, and the Terre Haute Federal Courthouse, have considered public health guidance related to the COVID-19 pandemic from a variety of sources, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and federal, state, and local public health authorities. Based on that guidance, and given the safeguards the Facilities Security Committees and the Court have imposed, the Facilities Security Committees find that it is appropriate to reopen the courthouses to the public beginning **July 6, 2020**.

## **II. Health and Safety Protocols**

### **A. Face Coverings**

The Court issued a General Order on June 12, 2020, on behalf of the Facility Security Committees for each courthouse in the Southern District of Indiana that requires, with limited exceptions, all persons entering and within public spaces of a courthouse to wear a face covering. That General Order remains in effect and should be read in detail before arriving at a courthouse.

### **B. Health Screening Questions**

Upon entry to a Courthouse, United States Marshals Service ("USMS") law enforcement personnel and USMS-Deputized contract Court Security Officers shall deny building access to individuals who may be infected with COVID-19 or otherwise appear to pose a public health risk. All persons seeking to enter courthouses within the Southern District of Indiana will be asked questions regarding symptoms and exposure to COVID-19. Persons who indicate they have symptoms or exposure to COVID-19 will be denied courthouse access. Those denied access will be provided information regarding the appropriate individual or entity to contact.

### **C. Social Distancing**

All persons in a courthouse must maintain a distance of 6 feet from others whenever possible.

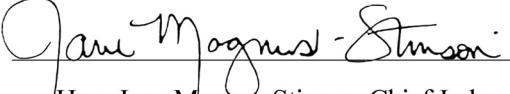
**D. Courthouse Escorts**

In an Order issued on May 20, 2020, the Court required that all permitted courthouse visitors to be escorted upon entry. That requirement is **TERMINATED**. Escorts may still be required pursuant to other court orders or security regulations.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

For the Court,

Date: 6/26/2020

  
Hon. Jane Magnus-Stinson, Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
Southern District of Indiana