

District Court, Weld County, State of Colorado Court Address: 901 9 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Greeley, CO 80631 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2038, Greeley, CO 80632-2038	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲</b></p> Case Number: <b>2021 CV 01</b> Division 1
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2021-07</b>	
<b>ORDER REQUIRING FACIAL COVERINGS TO BE WORN IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURTHOUSE AND PROBATION BUILDINGS</b>	

On July 27, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) issued new guidance due to the increase in the spread of the B.1.617.2 (“Delta”) COVID variant. Health experts report that the Delta variant is more highly transmissible than the original coronavirus strain, B.1.1.7. The CDC recommends that both vaccinated and unvaccinated persons wear facial coverings indoors in public places in areas of substantial or high transmission. Weld County is listed as an area of high transmission.

I have been monitoring the COVID data for Weld County and the state throughout the pandemic. The 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District judicial officers and management team continue to meet to discuss COVID data and court operations. On June 30, 2021, the one-week positivity rate in Weld County was 2.55% and the rate had been steadily declining over time. According to the data on the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (“CDPHE”) website on August 5, 2021, the one-week positivity rate in Weld County is 7.3%. The positivity rates in Weld County have been increasing over the past month. The CDPHE reports that 100% of the positive COVID tests during the week of July 18, 2021 involved the Delta variant.

Based on the recommendations of the CDC and the spike in the COVID positivity rate, I find that it is necessary to issue the following orders, which shall take effect on **August 9, 2021**.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. Facial coverings (masks) must be worn in all indoor public areas of the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District court and probation buildings. The requirement to wear facial coverings in public areas applies to vaccinated and unvaccinated persons. “Facial covering” and “mask” are synonymous for purposes of this Administrative Order and defined as a medical or non-medical cloth that covers the nose and mouth area.
2. “Indoor public areas” include hallways, corridors, public restrooms, the jury assembly rooms, the Court Information Center, the lobby areas of the Administration Office and Probation Offices, the exterior (lobby) of the Clerk’s Office, and courtrooms.
3. “Non-public indoor areas” include private offices (chambers and staff offices), private meeting or conference rooms, the interior (secure) area of the Clerk’s Office, and courtrooms when not in session or members of the public are not present (i.e. during WebEx proceedings).
4. Persons appearing in courtrooms (jurors, parties, witnesses, attorneys, judicial officers, court personnel, interpreters, etc.) may temporarily remove their facial covering when speaking in court if that person is comfortable removing their facial covering, to ensure a clear record is made.

5. Fully vaccinated persons are not required to wear facial coverings in non-public indoor areas. A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine (Moderna and Pfizer) or two weeks after a one-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson Janssen).
6. Persons over the age of ten (10) who are not fully vaccinated, **including employees, are required to wear a facial covering in public and non-public indoor areas of the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District court and probation buildings.**
7. Persons entering or moving about public and non-public indoor areas are expected to bring their own facial coverings. The 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District has a supply of facial coverings to provide to members of the public who do not have a facial covering.
8. Persons may continue to bring gloves and a small plastic container of hand sanitizer into court and probation buildings.
9. Individuals who cannot medically tolerate wearing a facial covering and children ten years of age and younger are exempted from this order. Employees must provide a letter from a medical provider to a member of the management team if the employee is seeking this exemption.
10. Individuals who are actively engaged in a public safety role while in the buildings, such as law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel, are exempted from this order.

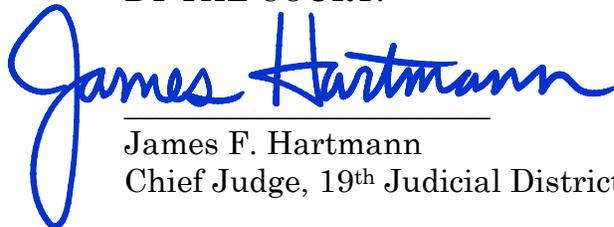
11. Individuals who are receiving a personal service and the temporary removal of the facial covering is necessary to perform the service are exempted from this order.
12. Individuals whose temporary removal of a facial covering is deemed necessary to perform any function or service provided by probation are exempted from this order.
13. Persons participating in evidence collection under the direction of law enforcement or a probation officer in court or probation buildings are permitted to temporarily remove facial coverings during the collection process.
14. Individuals who are hearing impaired or otherwise disabled or who are communicating with someone who is hearing impaired or otherwise disabled and where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication, are exempted from this order.
15. Employees may temporarily remove facial coverings when it is determined that wearing a facial covering is preventing effective communication. One example is when an employee is speaking on the telephone and the person speaking with the employee is unable to clearly hear or understand what is being said because of the employee's use of a facial covering. Employees should inquire of those who the employee is communicating with whether the person is able to hear and understand the employee when the employee is wearing a facial covering.
16. Employees may remove facial coverings when eating or drinking, as many employees take their breaks at the office.

17. Individuals who are asked to temporarily remove their facial covering for purposes of identification are exempted from this order.
18. Individuals who are asked to temporarily remove their facial coverings, as deemed necessary by a judicial officer to protect constitutional or statutory rights, or as determined to be necessary to ensure that an accurate record of the proceedings are made, are exempted from this order.
19. The provisions of Administrative Order 2021-07 do not apply to the county offices located within the Centennial Center, but county employees and those conducting business at county offices in the building are required to wear facial coverings in all public indoor areas of the buildings used for 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District court and probation functions, unless an exemption exists under this Administrative Order.

I reserve the right to amend, modify, or rescind this order, based on available data.

Dated: August 5, 2021

BY THE COURT:



James F. Hartmann  
Chief Judge, 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District