



**UPDATED CHIEF JUDGE'S STANDARDS REGARDING FACE COVERINGS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING
IN THE MESA COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER**

On May 31, 2021, the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment issued the [Third Amended Public Health Order 20-38 \(Limited COVID-19 Restrictions\)](#). Pursuant to the order, individuals are encouraged to “wear a face covering to reduce the likelihood of disease transmission” but fully vaccinated individuals are no longer, under any circumstances, required by the order to wear a face covering.

On June 15, 2021, Chief Justice Boatright issued an [Updated Order Regarding Safety in Colorado Courthouses](#) “authorizing the chief judge of each judicial district to determine facial covering and physical distancing requirements in courthouses and probation offices in the judicial district.”

Consistent with the above-referenced orders and recommendations of Mesa County Public Health (MCPH), I find the following standards for the Mesa County Justice Center (MCJC) to be appropriate:

- **Fully vaccinated** and **exempt** persons are **not required** to wear a face covering in the MCJC, although they may still do so if they choose. Individuals shall honestly determine their own vaccination status and follow the appropriate requirements while in the MCJC.
- **Non-exempt** persons who are **entering** or **moving** within the **public areas** of the MCJC are required to wear a face covering.
- The following persons are **EXEMPT** and are **not required** to wear a face covering while in the MCJC: individuals eleven (11) years of age and younger; individuals who cannot medically tolerate a face covering; 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; individuals who are entering the MCJC and are asked to temporarily remove a face covering for identification purposes; individuals who are actively engaged in a public safety role, such as law enforcement officers, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel; and persons who are fully vaccinated.
- **Fully Vaccinated** means two (2) weeks after a second dose in a two dose-series of the COVID-19 vaccine, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or two (2) weeks after the single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine.
- A face covering is **not required** in the **non-public areas** of the MCJC, although persons may still choose to wear one.
- It is recommended that all persons in the MCJC maintain physical social distancing of six (6) feet, unless excepted pursuant to the [Jury Trial Plan](#) that was approved by MCPH.
- Judges, if they deem it to be appropriate, may impose additional restrictions regarding their courtrooms.

- These standards shall be applied in a manner consistent with the American with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.), Title VII of the Civil Rights Act (42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.), the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act (C.R.S. § 24-34-401 et seq.), and any other relevant federal or State law. Furthermore, these standards shall not abrogate any public health or executive orders.

Effective June 19, 2021.



Brian J. Flynn, Chief Judge



A FACE COVERING IS REQUIRED* when entering or moving in the public areas of this building.

*The following individuals are exempt: individuals eleven (11) years of age and younger; individuals who cannot medically tolerate a face covering; 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; individuals who are entering the MCJC and are asked to temporarily remove a face covering for identification purposes; individuals who are actively engaged in a public safety role, such as law enforcement officers, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel; and persons who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (fully Vaccinated means two (2) weeks after a second dose in a two dose-series of the COVID-19 vaccine, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or two (2) weeks after the single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine).

- PLEASE MAINTAIN PROPER SOCIAL DISTANCING OF 6 FEET, unless directed otherwise by court staff.

