



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

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."

Having consulted with Mesa County Public Health, I find the following standards for the Mesa County Justice Center (MCJC) to be appropriate:

- **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; and individuals who are engaged in a public safety role, such as law enforcement officers, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel.
- Court employees are **required** to wear a face covering while in the **non-public areas** of the Court facilities located in the MCJC when physical social distancing of six (6) feet cannot be maintained.
- Although a mask may not be required, 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 or procedure for the First Appearance Center.
- Judges, if they deem it to be appropriate, may impose additional restrictions regarding their courtrooms.
- The Chief Probation Officer, if she deems it to be appropriate, may impose additional restrictions regarding her office.
- 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 November 23, 2021.



Brian J. Flynn, Chief Judge