

**FILED BHC**  
TIME 2:00 p M

MAY 28 2021

VIRLYNN TINNELL  
CLERK SUPERIOR COURT  
BY MC ARIZONA DEPUTY

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MOHAVE

IN THE MATTER OF:

**CONTINUED RESUMPTION OF  
CERTAIN OPERATIONS  
INCLUDING IN-PERSON HEARINGS  
AND JURY TRIALS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
2021-25**

The Arizona Supreme Court has issued Administrative Order No. 2021-77. This Administrative Order requires the Presiding Superior Court Judge of each county to enter an order addressing the use of masks or other face coverings in court facilities. Administrative Order 2021-77 further has established that the courts are now operating in Phase II(B) as set forth in Attachment A to said Administrative Order.

The court has considered the unique circumstances of each court facility, as well as the ongoing current levels of COVID-19 infections as published by the county on a daily basis. The Court has further consulted with judicial leadership and the various justice partners. Therefore, in accord with Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2021-77 and Phase II(B) the following orders are issued to continue limited restrictions and to further modify previous orders opening further court operations.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** beginning as of June 1, 2021 that judicial officers, court employees, counsel and the general public may enter and continue to be present in the courthouse without wearing a mask under the following conditions:

- Court security shall continue to utilize the health screening protocols provided by the Administrative Offices of the Court (AOC). An individual that fails a screening protocol shall be excluded from entering the courthouse and alternative arraignments shall be made should that individual be attempting to attend a scheduled court proceeding;
- Individuals shall maintain social distancing to the greatest extent possible;

- Jurors, when present in jury deliberation rooms that may not allow for social distancing, shall be required to wear face masks unless all jurors present agree not to wear masks and social distance to the greatest extent possible;
- All unvaccinated individuals entering the courthouse are encouraged to wear masks in addition to complying with social distancing requirements;
- An individual testifying in courtroom proceedings is authorized to remove a mask or face covering for the purposes of testimony, identification or to make an appropriate record or for such other reasons deemed necessary by the judicial officer presiding over the matter.
- In custody defendants appearing in court shall be required to wear a mask or face covering through July 5, 2021. Any individual that will remain in close contact with an in-custody defendant, defined as within six feet for a fifteen-minute period, shall further wear a mask or face covering. This timeframe is established in order for the Mohave County Jail to continue to offer vaccinations to in custody individuals.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** continuing to limit jail transports and encouraging the continued use of teleconferencing or video conferencing for hearings unless it is an otherwise constitutionally mandated hearing requiring an in-person appearance.

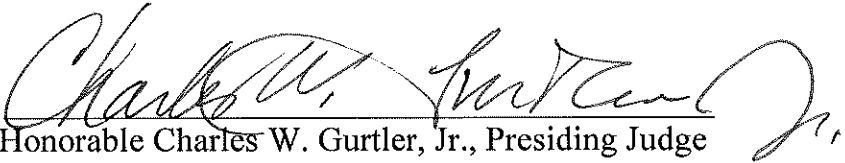
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that all visitors to the Mohave County Juvenile Detention Center shall continue to be required to wear masks to enter the facility.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** given the lack of space for social distancing for judges, court employees, security officers, and the public, and in further consultation with the Presiding Municipal Court Judge, that individuals entering the Bullhead City Municipal Court shall be required to wear masks or other face covering. Court Security shall exclude any person attempting to enter the facility without a mask or face covering. If the individual is present to attend a scheduled court proceeding security shall notify the court of the person's inability to enter the court facility so that appropriate arrangements can be made for that individual to make alternative arrangements for appearance, or to continue the hearing. Bullhead Municipal Court shall post the requirement for individuals to wear masks at the entrance to the court facility and on its public website.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that grand juries may continue to be conducted through video conferencing through the ZOOM platform including both empanelment and grand jury proceedings.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** limiting the number of persons to any court event to fifty (50) people with the exception of the off-site jury assembly facility. Given the size of the facility and with social distancing the jury assembly facility shall be capped at a limit of ninety (90) people.

**DATED** this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

  
Honorable Charles W. Gurtler, Jr., Presiding Judge  
Mohave County Superior Court

**Original filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court in Mohave County**