

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

IN RE: *
COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT * MISC. NO. 00-308
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19 *

STANDING ORDER 2022-01

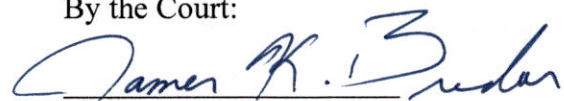
At the end of last year, this Court issued Standing Order 2021-16 which modified certain operations in light of recent CDC guidance. Since then, Maryland has continued to see a surge in COVID-19 cases driven by the Omicron variant. Due to this significant surge, and after discussion with the Court's consulting epidemiologist, the Court concludes that it is prudent to revise masking requirements for U.S. Courthouses and Probation Offices in this District to further mitigate potential spread of COVID-19 in those environments. Accordingly, it is:

ORDERED, that all persons seeking entry to, or occupying, any public area of a U.S. Courthouse or U.S. Probation Office within this district must wear a KN-95, N-95, or surgical mask that completely conceals the wearer's nose and mouth. A cloth mask is acceptable only if utilized in conjunction with an approved mask or an insert equivalent to an approved mask. In the discretion of the presiding judge, a participant in a court proceeding may be permitted to remove his or her mask while in the courtroom and speaking upon proffer to the Court that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that in order to ensure compliance with this new masking requirement, the United States Marshal, his Deputies, the Court Security Officers, or a designated contractor, shall provide any person seeking to enter a designated building without an appropriate face covering with a mask that is compliant with the terms of this Order. They shall otherwise deny entry to anyone attempting to enter in violation of this Order.

Dated this 5 day of January, 2022

By the Court:



James K. Breder
Chief Judge