

**CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
TETON COUNTY, STATE OF WYOMING**

FILED
JUL 01 2021
CIRCUIT COURT
9th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
TETON COUNTY WYOMING

**COVID-19 ORDER RE ENTRY INTO COURTROOM AND CLERK'S OFFICE
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021**

This Order governs entry into the Teton County Circuit Courtroom for in-person hearings, and entry into the Circuit Court Clerk's Office.

This order is based upon current recommendations by the Teton County, Wyoming Health Department.¹ As used in this Order, "face covering" means a covering made of cloth, fabric or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that covers the nose and mouth and surrounding areas of the lower face. In those situations in which a face covering is required under this Order, there is a general exception for young children and individuals who have a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. The Circuit Court Clerk's Office will make face coverings available for individuals who do not have their own.

1. ENTRY INTO THE CIRCUIT COURTROOM FOR IN-PERSON HEARINGS.

- a. Individuals Prohibited from Entering the Courtroom. The following individuals are prohibited from entering the Circuit Courtroom for in-person hearings:
- (1) Persons who that day or in the past 24 hours, have had any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, cold-like symptoms, shortness of breath, or loss of taste or smell.
 - (2) Persons who have you been in close contact with someone confirmed, presumed, quarantined, or who is being evaluated for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
 - (3) Persons who, in the last 14 days, visited an area that is subject to quarantine because of COVID-19 infection.

¹ See <https://www.tetoncountywy.gov/2061/COVID-19>

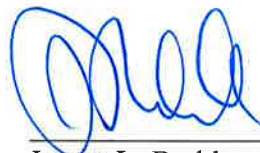
- b. Parties and Attorneys. Parties and their attorneys must wear a face covering when entering the Courtroom for in-person hearings. Once seated at the tables designated for the parties and their attorneys, parties and their attorneys may remove their face coverings. When leaving the Courtroom, parties and their attorneys must wear face coverings.
- c. Witnesses. Witnesses shall remain outside the Courtroom until they are ready to testify at in-person hearings. Witnesses shall wear face coverings when entering and leaving the Courtroom. Witnesses shall not wear face coverings when testifying, but may request permission to wear face coverings.
- d. Court Security. Court security personnel shall wear face coverings when entering and leaving the Courtroom during in-person hearings, but are not required to wear face coverings when seated or moving about the Courtroom.
- e. Other Individuals. Individuals other than parties, their attorneys and their witnesses, may request permission to attend in-person proceedings. If permitted to attend in person, those individuals shall wear face coverings when entering and leaving the Courtroom, but are not required to wear face coverings when seated in the Courtroom. Please contact the court by email at ccjac@courts.state.wy.us to request permission to attend hearings in person. Please state, in general terms, the individual's interest in attending the proceeding in person. The court will consider the requests in light of the current conditions in Teton County, Wyoming, related to Covid-19. Generally, the court will give priority to requests from the following persons, in descending order:
 - (1) a member of the press;
 - (2) a friend or family member of the defendant in a criminal case;
 - (3) a person who has information related to bond or bond conditions, such as information pertaining to a defendant's ties to the community or information related to community safety;
 - (4) an alleged victim in a criminal case;
 - (5) a victim advocate in criminal and protection order proceedings;
 - (6) a person recommending or providing substance abuse treatment who may have relevant information as to release terms related to offenses involving alcohol or controlled substances;

- (7) a person recommending or providing other treatment who may have relevant information as to release terms related to offenses connected with the treatment being recommended or provided;
 - (8) any other person who can show a special interest in the proceeding; or
 - (9) a person who has an interest as a member of the general public.
- f. Face Coverings Permissible. Nothing in this order prohibits individuals from wearing face coverings during in-person hearings (but see ¶ 1.c above for witnesses while testifying).

2. ENTRY INTO THE CIRCUIT COURT CLERK’S OFFICE.

- a. Queuing is prohibited. Individuals waiting to enter the Clerk’s Office shall remain at least 6 feet away from others. Individuals shall enter the one at a time. However,
- (1) Families and people sharing a household may enter together.
 - (2) Parties and their attorneys may enter together.
 - (3) Advocates accompanying alleged victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault or stalking may enter together.
- b. Face Coverings. Individuals entering the Clerk’s Office during business hours must wear a face covering while in the public portions of the Clerk’s Office. Circuit Court Staff are not required to wear face coverings while engaging in their daily work activities, but Circuit Court Clerks who interact with persons at the public counter shall wear face coverings.

DATED July 1, 2021.



James L. Radda
Circuit Court Judge