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GRAYS HARBOR CO.  
COURT CLERK  
CLERK

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON  
IN AND FOR GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE TO A THREAT TO PUBLIC  
HEALTH

**GENERAL ORDER 2020-10**

**COVID-19 Mitigation in  
Grays Harbor County  
Superior Court**

WHEREAS, this Court issued its General Orders #1 through #9 to respond to the health emergency and to mitigate the effect of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, General Order 7 implemented safety measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection among persons in the Grays Harbor County Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health has recently issued new safety guidelines for courthouse work environments,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. All persons entering the Grays Harbor County Courthouse will be subject to the rules and restrictions set forth in this order.
2. Any person who is sick or in quarantine shall not enter the Courthouse.
3. Frequently touched surfaces will be routinely cleaned with disinfectant.
4. Staff and visitors are expected to practice good hygiene by washing hands frequently or by using hand sanitizer when hand washing is not practicable.
5. Effective immediately, no person may enter the courthouse without a DOH approved face mask or face covering, unless exempted under paragraph #7 below. Face masks or face coverings must be worn at all times in all public areas and courtrooms within the courthouse. Face shields are not approved by the Washington State Department of Health.
6. Individuals actively participating in a court proceeding may remove their masks when speaking with permission of the Court. The Court may also direct the removal of masks

1 worn by active participants to facilitate clear communication and due process. Attorneys and  
2 litigants shall address the Court from behind the counsel tables. The podiums in the  
3 courtrooms shall no longer be used.

4 7. The following individuals do not need to wear a mask;

- 5 a) Any child aged two years or less;
- 6 b) Any individual who is deaf and uses facial and mouth movements as part of  
7 communication or an individual who is communicating with a person who is deaf  
8 and uses facial and mouth movements as part of communication;
- 9 c) Any individual who has documentation from a medical professional that wearing a  
10 face covering may pose a risk to that individual for health-related reasons;
- 11 d) Persons who are covered by 7 (b) or (c) above shall not be permitted to enter the  
12 courthouse, but, if any such person is a defendant in a criminal case, or a party in any  
13 other type of proceeding, accommodations shall be made for such individuals to  
14 appear in court remotely via Zoom.

15 8. Social distancing measures of at least six feet from all other persons will be strictly  
16 enforced to the greatest extent practicable in all Courtrooms and public areas in the  
17 Courthouse. Each individual courtroom will have a limited capacity due to social distancing.

18 9. All persons using the courthouse are encouraged to use their own masks or face coverings  
19 whenever possible. Face masks will be provided to persons who do not have a mask or face  
20 covering.

21 10. This order supersedes and replaces General Order 2020-7 of this Court.

22 DATED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2020.

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24 DAVID L. EDWARDS  
25 PRESIDING JUDGE  
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