



Superior Court of California County of Orange

Chambers of
KIRK H. NAKAMURA
PRESIDING JUDGE

700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 20/16

REQUIRED SAFETY MEASURES AND FACE COVERINGS IN COURT

On March 18, 2020, the Orange County Health Officer issued an [amended order](#) and guidance directing the public to operate in compliance with social distancing guidelines issued by the California Department of Public Health.

On March 19, 2020 California Governor Gavin Newsom and the State Public Health Officer issued [Executive Order N-33-20](#), ordering all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, except as needed, to maintain continuity of operations of essential critical infrastructure sectors. Courts are designated [Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers](#) and provide essential services during the stay at home order.

On April 1, 2020, the California Department of Public Health issued guidance regarding the use of face coverings in public.

On April 4, 2020, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended](#) wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

[On April 9, 2020 County of Orange Health Officer Dr. Nichole Quick issued a recommendation](#) strongly encouraging all employees at essential businesses to wear a face covering while at work and all residents engaged in essential activities outside the home to do the same. The cities of Fullerton, Westminster, and Santa Ana, and others have issued orders strongly encouraging essential service providers to require face coverings for both employees and patrons. (See [Director of Emergency Services for the City of Santa Ana Executive Order No. 3](#); [City of Fullerton City Manager Proclamation No. 2020-02](#); [Interim Westminster City Manager Executive Order](#).)

On April 21, 2020, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange issued an order requiring face coverings for all employees of any grocery store, pharmacy/drug store, convenience store, gas station, restaurant, food preparation establishment, or retail store in Orange county who may have contact with the public.”

As of May 5, 2020, Orange County has had 2,873 cumulative cases of COVID-19 and 69 deaths from COVID-19.

Pursuant to my authority to control matters before the Court (Code Civ. Proc., § 128; Gov. Code, § 68070); my authority as the Presiding Judge (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.603); the inherent powers of the Court (*In re Reno* (2012) 565 Cal.4th 428, 522); and in compliance with state and local guidelines and ordinances, I therefore order as follows:

Effective May 21, 2020, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to protect public health, all members of the public entering the court are subject to the following restrictions:

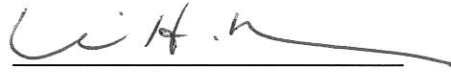
- Social distancing of at least six feet (6') shall be enforced in all courthouses, courtrooms, and public areas to the extent possible.
- All members of the public entering a court building, including law enforcement, attorneys, parties, and vendors must wear face coverings for the purpose of covering their mouth and nose at all times in the public areas of any court building, including courtrooms. Face coverings may include a mask, scarf, or any other cloth material that covers both mouth and nose.
- Individuals who are not wearing a mask will be denied entry to the building. Individuals who remove their masks after entering the building will be reminded of this requirement. If compliance is refused, services may not be provided, and the person may be asked to leave the court building immediately. Children under the age of three are exempt from this Order.
- For individuals with disabilities who seek an exemption from this Order as a reasonable accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act or California Rules of Court, rule 1.100, please contact the Court's ADA site coordinator at <http://www.occourts.org/general-info/> or at ADAInformation@occourts.org.

This Order will remain in effect until 90 days after the Governor declares that the State of Emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic is lifted, or until amended or repealed.

May 21, 2020

THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 21st day of May 2020, at Santa Ana California.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk H. Nakamura", written over a horizontal line.

Kirk H. Nakamura
Presiding Judge