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DAVID T. LEWIS III

KITSAP COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN RE THE KITSAP COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND
THE PANDEMIC OUTBREAK OF THE
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

No. 2022-11
AMENDED EMERGENCY
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
RE- MASKING

THIS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER is being issued in response to the pandemic outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The Court finds and concludes as follows:

1. Effective after October 31, 2022, the State of Washington terminated the state of emergency proclamation in response to COVID-19, finding that although the threat of COVID-19 remains in all counties in the state of Washington, a State of Emergency Proclamation is no longer necessary to continue to respond to this disease.
2. On October 27, 2022, the Supreme Court of Washington issued its Order Regarding Court Operations after October 31, 2022 (No. 25700-B-697) amending previous orders aimed to ensure safe and effective administration of justice during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Order authorized Presiding Judges of the Washington courts to adopt, modify, and suspend local court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations as warranted to address ongoing challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Previously, on March 12, 2022, the Sate of Washington lifted most indoor mask mandates.
4. In Emergency Administrative Order No. 2022-06, issued March 15, 2022, this Court ordered that all persons must always wear a mask regardless of vaccination status while in a Kitsap County Superior Court courtroom (including Superior Court jury deliberation rooms and


1 the Kitsap County Courthouse jury assembly room), but six-foot social distancing was no
2 longer required, and masks were not required in hallways and bathrooms of the Kitsap
3 County Courthouse.

- 4 5. Kitsap County Superior Court continues to consult with the Kitsap Public Health District.
5 Kitsap County Superior Court makes all final public health decisions with respect to
6 Courthouse and Superior Court courtroom operations.

7 **IT IS SO ORDERED:**

- 8 1. This Order is effective immediately.
- 9 2. The Court hereby amends its previous Emergency Administrative Order RE – Masking
10 (No. 2022-06) as follows:
- 11 a. Face masks and/or social distancing in Superior Court courtrooms, Superior
12 Court jury deliberations rooms and the jury assembly room will be permitted
13 but no longer mandated.
- 14 b. Individual judicial officers of Kitsap County Superior Court may choose at their
15 discretion to continue to require masking and/or social distancing in their
16 respective courtrooms under certain circumstances.
- 17 3. This Order shall be subject to revision at any time as the public health situation changes.
18 The Kitsap County Courthouse remains open to the public

19 DATED – NOVEMBER 3, 2022

20 
21 KEVIN D. HULL
22 Presiding Judge
23 Kitsap County Superior Court