

Notice – Expanded Public Access to the Courthouse

(Updated July 15, 2021)

Expanded Public Access to the Courthouse: In addition to individuals with official business with the courts and members of the public and media who have had access to live video streaming of District Court trials, members of the public and the media may enter the Courthouse to observe District Court trials and other District Court proceedings as space permits in the courtroom.

Mask and Physical Distancing Requirements:

- **Public Areas of the Courthouse:** All persons in any public area of the Courthouse must wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth and maintain physical distancing. Any visitor without an appropriate mask will be provided with one.
- **Non-Public Areas of the Courthouse:** Fully vaccinated individuals, including Courthouse staff and persons authorized to use non-public areas in the Courthouse, are not required to wear a mask while in non-public areas. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated must wear a mask and maintain physical distancing.
- **District Court Proceedings:** A presiding judge has discretion to permit participants in a District Court proceeding and others in the courtroom, regardless of vaccination status, to remove their masks while in the courtroom.

Clerk's Offices: Individuals delivering filings, pleadings, and briefs must use the drop box at the entrance to the Courthouse on Third Street. Individuals with emergency or sealed filings may not use the drop box and must contact the appropriate Clerk's Office for further instructions. Individuals who need to pay fines, make restitution payments, or obtain certifications should contact the appropriate Clerk's Office or refer to instructions on the relevant court's website.

Probation and Pretrial Matters: Defendants under supervision with the Probation Office or the Pretrial Services Agency are permitted to enter the Courthouse to go to the Probation Office or the Pretrial Services Agency office.

Health Precautions: Any person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, asked to self-quarantine, or is experiencing possible symptoms should not enter the Courthouse. A contactless temperature kiosk is located at the Third Street entrance to facilitate self-assessment. If a person cannot enter the Courthouse, call the appropriate office for assistance:

Court of Appeals Clerk's Office	202.216.7300
District & Bankruptcy Courts Clerk's Office	202.354.3120
District Court Jury Office	202.354.3360
Probation Office	202.565.1300
Pretrial Services Office	202.442.1000
Circuit Executive's Office	202.216.7340