

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

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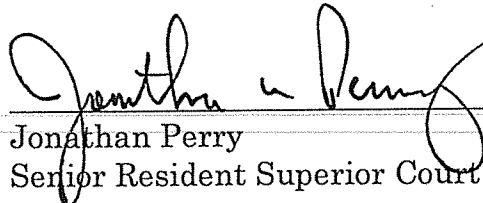
Union County has been experiencing significantly falling levels of COVID-19 infections, test positivity rates, and hospitalizations, according to the statistics maintained and provided by the Union County Health Department. To prepare to return to pre-COVID-19 judicial activities, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina issued an updated set of Directives on May 7th, 2021.

These Directives returned control over existing provisions guarding health and safety of the courthouse operations to local officials in consultation with the local County health departments. After consulting with the Union County Health Department and other local officials, it is hereby ordered as follows:

- The terms of this order shall be in effect pending further orders of the Court.
- Even with the modifications of operations allowed under the provisions of this order, no person should enter the Judicial Center who is positive for COVID-19, who has been told to quarantine or isolate by a medical provider or health department representative, or who has been knowingly exposed to COVID-19 and exhibits symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- All persons entering the Judicial Center should abide by safety directives and good public health practices, including regularly washing hands or using hand sanitizer as provided. Individuals who have not been vaccinated are strongly encouraged to wear face masks unless directed by judicial officials to do otherwise when in common areas of the courthouse, and to maintain safe social distancing where appropriate.
- Courtroom gallery capacity shall be adjusted, as set forth in the Administrative Order of the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, filed May 29, 2020 as follows: Maximum Occupancy Levels are DOUBLED for each respective courtroom with two exceptions: Courtroom 6 for Superior Court Criminal and Civil sessions (including jury sessions) is to return to normal pre-CoVid capacity; the Grand Jury room will also be returned to normal pre-CoVid capacity, in both instances to allow for the normal conduct of business which would otherwise not be possible.

This ORDER becomes effective as of the date indicated below and remains in force until further revised.

This the 1st day of June, 2021.


Jonathan Perry
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge