



JOHN W. DAVIS  
CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT 9

DISTRICT COURT JUDGES  
AMANDA E. STEVENSON  
ADAM S. KEITH  
CAROLINE S. BURNETTE  
JOHN H. STULTZ  
BENJAMIN S. HUNTER  
S. KATHERINE BURNETTE

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** JULY 30, 2021  
**TO:** STAKEHOLDERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES  
**FROM:** JOHN W. DAVIS-CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE  
**RE:** 9<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT-MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING IN DISTRICT COURT SESSIONS

As many of you know, Governor Cooper spoke yesterday about the concerning uptick in the number of new cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina and the alarming rate at which the Delta variant is being transmitted. Governor Cooper did not issue any new or additional face masks or social distancing mandates. He did strongly encourage and recommend that all persons, including those vaccinated, wear masks inside public buildings.

With that in mind and regarding our upcoming District Court sessions, I ask each of you to strongly consider wearing masks while inside any public areas of our Courthouses, particularly in our Courtrooms. Additionally, and to the extent practical, we all should try to distance ourselves from others as much as space allows while inside our facilities.

Our Courthouse Security Teams at each of our facilities have been instrumental in implementing our previous requirements regarding COVID protocols. We all owe them a great deal of gratitude in helping ensure the safety of all persons coming into our Courthouses. In that regard, I ask that our Courthouse Security teams notify the public as they enter our facilities that masks and distancing to the extent practical are strongly encouraged. Additionally, if available, signage displaying these recommendations should be placed on entrance doorways.

These recommendations are not ordered or mandatory but are suggestions based upon the guidance provided yesterday which are based upon the newest available data regarding COVID.

In closing, I personally want to thank each of you for all your actions to help keep our court system functioning at a high level throughout the pandemic. I am continually amazed at the support all of you have continually provided for our court system and in keeping its participants safe.