

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON  
FOR THE COUNTY OF CLACKAMAS

**In the Matter of:**

**IMPLEMENTING CHIEF JUSTICE  
ORDER NO. 20-016**

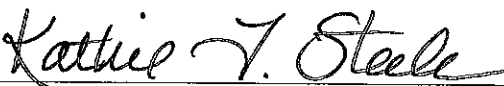
**Presiding Judge Order  
2020-16**

On May 14, 2020, Governor Brown approved a Phase One reopening for some parts of the state, easing certain restrictions on Oregonians in relation to the COVID-19 state of emergency. On May 15, 2020, Chief Justice Walters issued Chief Justice Order (CJO) No. 20-016, which imposed “Level 2” and “Level 3” restrictions on court operations effective June 1, 2020. Paragraph 10 of CJO No. 20-016 addresses the use of protective face coverings. On June 19, 2020, Governor Brown announced a requirement that face coverings be worn while in indoor public spaces in several Oregon counties, including Clackamas County. Pursuant to the authority described in CJO 20-016, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. Definitions. “Courthouse” means the common areas open to the public, courtrooms and work areas for court personnel in the Clackamas County Courthouse. “Protective face covering” means a covering of the nose and mouth to protect against spreading the COVID-19 virus, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control. “Protective face covering” includes, but is not limited to, face coverings, face masks and face shields.
2. Except for witnesses while testifying, children under twelve (12) years of age, law enforcement that works in the courthouse and as provided in paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 below, all persons entering the Courthouse are required to wear a protective face covering while in the Courthouse.
3. A judge presiding over a trial or other proceeding in a courtroom may, in the judge’s sole discretion, decline to wear a protective face covering for all or any portion of the trial or proceeding.

4. A judge presiding over a trial or other proceeding in a courtroom may authorize any person participating in the trial or proceeding to temporarily remove the protective face covering to facilitate communication as the judge deems appropriate.
5. Court employees, working in an area where at least a six (6) foot distance is maintained are authorized to temporarily remove their protective face covering for the duration of their work in that space. The employee must use the protective face covering whenever it is not possible to maintain a six (6) foot distance from another person, when working with the public without a physical barrier, and/or when in other parts of the Courthouse.
6. Any person who needs to enter the Courthouse without using a protective face covering because of disability, respiratory or other health-related issues, or for other good cause, must request an exemption from the Presiding Judge. Exemption requests may be presented to the Presiding Judge during standard *ex parte* hours, or at other times if necessary. A person who needs an exemption should contact the Presiding Judge's staff before entering the courthouse.
7. The Court will provide protective face coverings and information about how to use them as needed to the extent available resources allow.
8. This ORDER is based on currently available information concerning the risks and spread of the COVID-19 virus. This order may be revised as further information becomes available. This ORDER goes into effect on June 24, 2020 and remains in force until revised or vacated by order of this Court.

DATED this 19 day of June 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathie F. Steele", written over a horizontal line.

Kathie F. Steele  
Clackamas County Circuit Court  
Presiding Judge