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FILED
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

NOV 17 2020

V. Magaña

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

RE: MANDATORY FACIAL
COVERINGS AND PHYSICAL
DISTANCING

GENERAL ORDER NO.: 2020-67

The Governor of the State of California, the President of the United States, and the Public Health Officer of the County of Riverside have each declared a state of emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which poses significant risks to health and safety. During the on-going COVID-19 pandemic the Court must continue to fulfill its statutory duties, while at the same time safeguarding the well-being of the public it serves, court staff, and judicial officers. The Court has taken numerous measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within its courthouses, including reducing the number of persons entering courthouses by limiting the matters to be heard at any one time on a given day, significantly reducing the number of jurors, establishing and encouraging remote telephonic and video court proceedings, increasing on-line services, installing plexiglass within courtrooms, and providing sanitizing stations throughout courthouses.

On May 6, 2020, the Court issued General Order No. 2020-21, mandating face coverings and requiring six-foot physical distancing to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, and to protect

1 the health and safety of the public, court staff, and judicial officers. Since May 6, 2020, the
2 California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have
3 learned more about the transmission of COVID-19, most notably that persons infected with the
4 virus, who remain asymptomatic, can also spread COVID-19. To help prevent the transmission
5 of COVID-19, the CDPH and the CDC recommend the use of multilayer cloth facial coverings,
6 and maintaining at least a six (6) foot distance from other people. Further, the CDC recently made
7 recommendations concerning the types of facial coverings to be worn to prevent or slow the
8 spread of COVID-19.
9

10 Therefore, to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, and to protect the health and safety
11 of the public, court staff, and judicial officers, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure §128,
12 Government Code §68070, Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.603, the inherent powers of the Court (*In*
13 *re Reno* (2012) 55 Cal.4th 428, 522), and in compliance with federal, state, and local guidelines,
14 the Court hereby vacates General Order No. 2020-21, and finds and orders as follows:

15 1. All persons entering any courthouse or courtroom shall wear a facial covering at all
16 times within public areas and shared work spaces. The facial covering must have at least two
17 layers of material and must fit snugly over the nose, mouth, and chin, hooking around the ears or
18 secured behind the head. Single layer neck gaiters, face coverings with an exhalation valve, and
19 face shields (without the two-layered face covering underneath) are not permitted. Children under
20 the age of two (2) are exempt from this order.

21 2. Any person with a disability who refuses or is unable to wear the required facial
22 covering may request an exemption from this order as a reasonable accommodation pursuant to
23 the Americans with Disabilities Act, or Rule 1.100 of the Cal. Rules of Court. To request an
24 accommodation please contact the Court's ADA coordinator at
25 www.riverside.courts.ca.gov/GeneralInfo/ADA/ADA.php. To reduce the risk of infection,
26 individuals exempted from wearing a facial covering may have their matter scheduled at a time
27 when there are fewer people in court.
28

1 3. Non-exempt persons who decline or refuse to wear a facial covering will be denied
2 entry to the courthouse or courtroom.


3 4. Individuals who remove their facial covering after entering the courthouse or
4 courtroom will be reminded to wear them. If they refuse, they may be denied services, have their
5 legal matter rescheduled, and/or will be asked to leave the courthouse.

6 5. All persons entering a courthouse must continue to maintain physical distance from all
7 persons of at least six (6) feet at all times.

8 6. While in the courthouse, all persons must practice good hand washing hygiene, and
9 cover coughs and sneezes, preferably with a tissue.

11 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

12 Date: 11/17/2020

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14 
15 JOHN W. VINEYARD
16 Presiding Judge