



Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court
Jackson County

**NOTICE
HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

Pursuant to Order of the Missouri Supreme Court, the 16th Judicial Circuit is posting this notice to advise litigants, attorneys, and the general public of the health and safety requirements required during Phase 1 of the Court's operational plan. These requirements were developed in cooperation with the Jackson County Executive's Office. Effective May 18, 2020, the following is required in order to enter any of the four Jackson County Courthouses:

1. **Mask required.** Everyone who enters any courthouse is required to have and wear a protective face mask that covers their nose and mouth – this is not optional. The mask can be a cloth covering, it does not have to be a surgical mask or N95 mask. **If you do not have and wear a protective face covering, you will not be allowed to enter the courthouse.**

2. **Everyone is required to wear a face mask inside the courthouses** while in all public spaces including courtrooms, hallways, public restrooms, and while conducting business with any Court employees. If you are not wearing a mask, you will be asked to leave.

3. To enter a courthouse, you are **required to have your temperature** taken by a health care professional and **answer standard medical screening questions.** If your temperature is 100.4° F or over, you will not be permitted to enter the courthouse. If you refuse to answer the medical screening questions or if your answers do not meet medical guidelines, you will not be permitted to enter the Courthouse.

4. If you are denied access to the courthouse, the Jackson County Sheriff's Department will provide you with contact information for the division where your hearing was to take place so you can notify the Judge's staff that you were not allowed entry.

5. **Gatherings will be limited to 10 people or less** at any time in any public space, including courtrooms. Therefore, generally only litigants, their attorneys and witnesses will be allowed into a courtroom at any one time. Family, friends and children should not accompany you to the courthouse and will not be allowed into the courtrooms.

6. No one can approach the bench or approach court staff in the courtroom without first gaining permission from the Judge.

7. Strict social distancing requirements will be in effect throughout the courthouse requiring a distance of six feet between people.

8. You are encouraged to bring your own hand sanitizer. Due to high nationwide demand, hand sanitizer may not always be available at the courthouse.

9. **If you are sick or do not feel well, do not come to the courthouse – you will be denied entry.** Contact your attorney so that a continuance can be requested. If you do not have an attorney, call the division where your case is assigned with the following information: your case number, your court date, your name, and where you can be reached.

10. The north door at the Kansas City courthouse will remain closed – public entry is through the west door on Oak Street.

Your cooperation and adherence to these requirements is appreciated as efforts are made to keep everyone safe during this time of concern about the spread of COVID-19.