

Mask Policy

As contemplated by General Order 2022-02, the Court has adopted a temporary mandatory mask policy for the **Alexandria and Richmond Divisions** of this Court, though presiding judges may permit the removal of masks in their courtrooms to facilitate Court proceedings.

In the **Norfolk and Newport News Divisions**, masks are not currently required, but they are strongly encouraged. Additionally, many of the judges in the Norfolk and Newport News Divisions are requiring masks during Court proceedings.

The controlling mask policy will be posted on the entry doors at each of our Courthouses and Court facilities, and for locations where masks are required, the following rule will be in place:

All individuals, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a well-fitting respirator (N-95, KN-95, etc.) or a surgical/procedure mask that covers their nose and mouth continuously in all indoor public areas unless it is medically unsafe for them to do so **and** they obtain permission from the Chief Judge or Senior Active Judge.

For individuals that do not have a well-fitting respirator or surgical/procedure mask, one will be provided at all Courthouses and Court facilities requiring masks and one will be available at locations where masks are strongly encouraged.

Any visitor seeking entry to our Courthouses/facilities that does not comply with these requirements may be denied entry by security staff and will be asked to contact the office/chambers to be visited and determine whether alternate arrangements can be made to accomplish the business needs of the visitor without entry to the Courthouse/facility.