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**ORDER REQUIRING THE USE OF FACE COVERINGS**

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Because of the continuing and increasing spread of COVID-19, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now recommend that face coverings be worn indoors in public spaces in locations where there is a “substantial” or “high” transmission rate of the virus.

The CDC COVID Data Tracker indicates that the rate of transmission of COVID-19 is “substantial” in St. Louis County, Lake County, and Carlton County.

The tracker indicates that the rate of transmission is “moderate” for Cook County. However, based on the new delta variant of COVID-19, the Cook County Court Administrator has required all staff and visitors to wear a mask in public and shared offices spaces in county buildings beginning August 9, 2021.

Considering the above, it is necessary to resume the use of face coverings in court spaces in the Sixth Judicial District to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. In all counties of the Sixth Judicial District, face coverings shall be worn in the courtroom and in publically accessible areas/hallways immediately in and adjacent to the courtroom, and areas immediately adjacent to Court Administration offices.
2. Court employees shall wear face coverings to and from their work spaces. Coverings may be removed when working at their individual work spaces.
3. If the county requires the use of face coverings in county-owned buildings, all persons shall abide by the requirements set by the county.
4. All persons shall bring and wear their own face covering.
5. Attorneys shall advise their clients, witnesses, and court participants of the need to bring a face covering to the courthouse.
6. The court will continue to monitor the CDC COVID-19 Weekly Tracker and will suspend this order as appropriate. Transmission data may be obtained at <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>.

**BY THE COURT:**

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Michael J. Cuzzo  
Chief Judge of the Sixth Judicial District