

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SUPREME COURT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

O R D E R

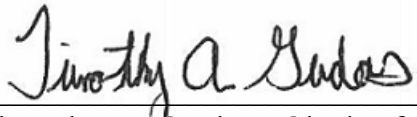
Pursuant to its constitutional authority and powers of general superintendence over the New Hampshire court system, and upon consideration of the guidelines set forth in Governor Sununu's Emergency Order # 40, the Supreme Court makes the following order in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Individuals entering State of New Hampshire courthouses must wear face covers that cover the mouth and nose. This rule applies to all who work in the Judicial Branch as well as litigants, lawyers, members of the media, and members of the public. The Judicial Branch recommends that people use their own face coverings, but will provide face coverings for people who do not have their own. Judicial Branch staff and judges are not required to wear masks at those times when they consistently can maintain at least 6' of social distancing. This rule does not apply to anyone for whom the wearing of a mask would be contrary to their health or safety. Except when they have business at the clerk's office or a courtroom, this rule does not apply to employees of the County Sheriffs or other independent entities with offices in courthouses. In the event that a member of the public declines to wear a mask, court security should alert the clerk's office to determine the nature of the person's business with the court.

People wearing face covers should still strive to maintain appropriate social distancing from others.

This order shall remain in effect until revoked or amended.

Issued: May 4, 2020

ATTEST: 

Timothy A. Gudas, Clerk of Court
Supreme Court of New Hampshire