



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

IN RE:

POLICY REGARDING THE WEARING
OF FACE COVERINGS IN EASTERN
DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FEDERAL
COURTHOUSES

GENERAL ORDER NO. 633

This court issues this General Order as another in a series of General Orders in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic in the Eastern District of California and elsewhere, making the following findings and orders:

WHEREAS on May 21, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued guidance that fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing masks or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance;

WHEREAS on June 11, 2021, the California Department of Public Health issued an Order effective June 15, 2021, providing Guidance for the use of Face Coverings and Masks stating that: Face Coverings and Masks are not required for fully vaccinated individuals except in settings where masks are required for everyone regardless of vaccination status; and masks are required for unvaccinated individuals in indoor public settings and businesses, including but not limited to retail, restaurants, theaters, family entertainment centers, meetings, and state and local government offices serving the public;

WHEREAS on June 15, 2021, Sacramento County allowed its prior Public Health Order to expire and aligned its guidance with that of the State of California, and Fresno County has

clarified that vaccinated people may go unmasked in most settings except for public transportation and places such as hospitals and shelters; and

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2021, a majority of members of the Federal Security Committees consisting of tenants of the Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse in Sacramento and the Robert E. Coyle United States Courthouse in Fresno voted to follow CDC Guidance and not require face masks for vaccinated individuals in the common areas of those courthouses, while recognizing that each entity or agency within the courthouse may set its own policies;

NOW THEREFORE, in light of the best public health information available, until further notice, I hereby issue the following Order:

Effective immediately at the Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse in Sacramento and the Robert E. Coyle United States Courthouse in Fresno, attorneys, court staff, agency staff, tenants and other authorized courthouse visitors who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are no longer required to wear masks or face coverings in common areas of the courthouse, except as provided below. Any persons entering these two courthouses who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are still required to wear masks or face coverings. This policy adopted in this Order shall be posted at the front entrance of these courthouses.

Court Security Officers at all United States Courthouses in the Eastern District of California shall continue to confirm a negative response to COVID-19 screening questions, as originally provided in General Order No. 610 and as subsequently modified by CDC Guidance.

Tenant Agencies in all United States Courthouses in the Eastern District of California shall determine the masking requirements for those agencies' employees in their private agency spaces.

Masking and physical distancing requirements for jurors reporting to any of the United States Courthouses in the Eastern District of California, and during any proceedings in individual courtrooms, will be determined by the judge presiding over the proceeding, including a trial for which jurors are summoned.

////

////

Masking and physical distancing requirements for the public areas of the Bakersfield, Redding and Yosemite National Park U.S. Courthouses will be determined by the judge assigned to that courthouse and shall be posted at the front entrance of these courthouses.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: July 13, 2021.



CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE