

*State of New York
Supreme Court, Appellate Division
Third Judicial Department*

Court Operations and COVID Guidelines (as of September 14, 2022)

Oral Arguments:

Oral Arguments will be held *in-person* with appropriate health and safety protocols. Arguments will continue to be live streamed via the Court's website.

COVID Guidelines:

Effective September 15, 2022, the following COVID-19 guidelines of the Unified Court System's (UCS) Office of Court Administration will be implemented at the Third Department.

Face masks will no longer be required for any persons, regardless of vaccination status, in a UCS facility, unless either of the two exceptions apply:

- **Return from Isolation:** Any person, including judges, non-judicial personnel and court visitors, returning from isolation after testing positive for COVID-19 entering a UCS facility must wear a well-fitting, disposable, non-woven mask in all areas and at all times in a UCS facility for 5 calendar days from the end of their isolation; and
- **Exposure to Someone with COVID-19:** All individuals, after coming into close contact with someone with COVID-19, defined by the CDC as within 6 feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes within a 24-hour period, must wear a well-fitting, disposable, non-woven mask at all times around others and in all areas of our courts or facilities for the next 10 calendar days.

Please note that UCS has discontinued its Orange Card and Green/White Pass programs. Any person may wear a mask in a court facility if they choose. Those individuals who have weakened or compromised immune systems, are at increased risk for severe disease because of age or medical condition or live in the same household as someone with those risk factors, may want to wear a mask in a UCS facility.

You should not enter the Courthouse if you are SYMPTOMATIC or COVID-19 POSITIVE: A "Symptomatic Person" is any individual who has any COVID-19 symptoms, e.g. cough, sore throat, temperature of 100.0° or higher, shortness of breath within the last 24 hours. A "COVID Positive Person" is an individual who has been diagnosed with or tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 5 days or has been directed to isolate and/or self-monitor after testing positive to COVID-19 by any doctor, hospital or public health official/agency and has not obtained medical clearance to appear in public.

These protocols are subject to modification based on additional guidance from the CDC and New York State Department of Health