

As a result of the viral pandemic currently existing and in contemplation of the potential transmission of Coronavirus/ COVID-19, and for the protection of court users and staff, the Court hereby enters this Order, which shall remain in effect until further notice.

1.

Upon entering the Courthouse, all visitors and staff will have his or her temperature taken with a non-touch thermometer or similar temperature detection device. Entrance shall be prohibited with regard to anyone with a temperature of 100.7 degrees or higher.

2.

Pursuant to this Court's Order, all visitors entering into the courtroom shall be subject to the screening statements and requirements set out in this Order.

3.

Face masks shall be worn by all persons appearing for a court session. Masks will be provided for anyone appearing for a court session without a mask. Hand sanitizers will also be provided. The Courtroom shall be sanitized before and after each session. Hard surfaces in the courtroom will be wiped down before and after all court proceedings.

4.

Social distancing of six (6) feet shall be maintained at all times.

5.

In order to ensure proper social distancing, courtroom seating shall be arranged so that no less than six (6) feet of distance is maintained at all times.

6.

The Court will place shields at the following locations: podium; Solicitor's desk; Court Appointed Attorney's desk; Probation Officer's desk; Clerk of Court's desk; and Judge's Bench.

7.

Only parties, counsel, and witnesses shall be allowed to enter the courtroom and adjacent areas, in order to maintain social distancing. Parents of Defendants under twenty-one (21) years of age will also be allowed to enter. The Court encourages, when possible, arrangements for child-care be made before coming to Court. All Court proceedings will be available via live feed on YouTube.

8.

All visitors and those who are members of a vulnerable population (such as persons over age 65, individuals with serious underlying health conditions such as high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune systems are compromised, such as by chemotherapy for cancer or other conditions requiring therapy) are encouraged to request a virtual appearance as an alternative to appearing in person.

9.

The Clerk of Court is directed to post this Order at the entrance of the Courthouse and on the Court's website.

SO ORDERED this 22nd day of December, 2020.

Nailah Grant McFarlane, Chief Judge City of Fayetteville Municipal Court