

***SECOND AMENDED* COVID-19 Circuit Court Operating Plan for WALWORTH County**

Recognizing the need to ensure the health and safety of litigants, attorneys, visitors, court staff, judges, and other individuals entering the buildings housing the courts, the courts of **Walworth** County will implement the following protective measures:

General

1. The county judiciary has established a stakeholder's committee to discuss and consider the recommendations outlined in the Wisconsin COVID- 19 Task Force report.
2. Before calendaring in-person hearings, the stakeholder's committee has addressed staffing needs and has procured any equipment and supplies deemed necessary.

Judge, Court Commissioner, and Court Staff Health

1. Judges/court commissioners who can perform the essential functions of their job remotely may continue to do so.
2. The following procedures have been implemented to monitor the health of Judge, Court Commissioner, and Court Staff: Judges, court commissioners, and employees are expected to self-monitor. Supervisors may question employees on their health. Depending on employees' answers to screening questions regarding their health, they may be required to contact their medical provider for testing or self-isolate for 14 days.
3. Unvaccinated Judges, court commissioners, and court staff will be required to wear face coverings in the courtroom, and practice social distancing. All Judges, court commissioners, and court staff will be required to practice appropriate hand hygiene.

Vulnerable Populations

1. Vulnerable populations who are scheduled for court will be accommodated if appropriate.

Social Distancing

1. All unvaccinated persons not from the same household who are permitted in the court building will be required to maintain adequate social distancing of at least 6 feet.

Hygiene

1. CDC flyers outlining appropriate hygiene or public safety have been posted in multiple locations on each floor of the court building.

Screening

1. When individuals attempt to enter the court building, two county-employed screeners will ask the individuals if they are feeling feverish; have a cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing; or have been in close contact with a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19. Individuals who indicate yes to any of these questions will be refused admittance to the court

The completed plan must be forwarded to the Chief Judge of the Judicial District for approval.

building. If required to appear in court, the appropriate court office will be immediately notified.

2. When individuals attempt to enter the court building, two county-employed screeners will use an infrared thermometer to determine the temperature of the individual. Individuals whose temperature equals or exceeds 100.0°F will be refused admittance to the court building.
3. Individuals refusing to be screened will be denied admittance to the court building. The Court may make an exception under extraordinary circumstances.
4. Inmates being transported from the jail to the court building will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 and have their temperature taken prior to transport. Inmates with symptoms or a temperature equal to or above 100.0°F will not be transported to the court building. Any court personnel that will be in contact with the inmate or in the same courtroom as the inmate will also be temperature screened to ensure their temperature is below 100.0°F.
5. Staff who are screening individuals entering the court building will be provided personal protective equipment, including mask, face shield, gloves.
6. Staff who are doing the screening will have a listing of contact information in order to notify the courts of individuals who may have been denied entrance.

Face Coverings

1. All unvaccinated individuals who are present in courtrooms, jury rooms, and other court-related confined spaces shall be required to wear face coverings at all times unless a judge/court commissioner specifically determines on the record that it is necessary for a witness not to wear a face covering during the witness's testimony in order for the judge/court commissioner or jury to weigh the witness's credibility.
2. Unvaccinated individuals will be encouraged to bring face coverings with them, but if the individual does not have a face covering, a disposable face mask will be provided.

Cleaning

1. Court building cleaning staff will clean the common areas of the court building during the evening.
2. Court building cleaning staff will clean the courtrooms every evening.
3. Court building cleaning staff and court staff have been provided cleaning supplies shown to be effective with this coronavirus.
4. Court building cleaning staff and court staff have been trained on proper cleaning techniques and provided appropriate personal protective equipment.

Other

Effective July 1, 2021, all hearings will be in person unless specifically scheduled via telephone, video conferencing, or Zoom. Specific requests must be directed to the assigned judge for approval.

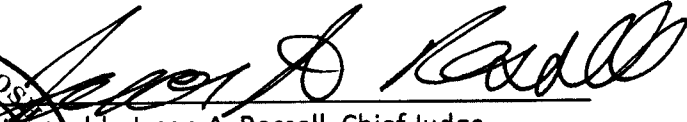
The completed plan must be forwarded to the Chief Judge of the Judicial District for approval.

Date: May 26, 2021



Honorable David M. Reddy, Presiding Judge

Date: May 26, 2021



Honorable Jason A. Rossell, Chief Judge

The completed plan must be forwarded to the Chief Judge of the Judicial District for approval.