

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

**GENERAL ORDER #61**

**October 8, 2020  
Revised May 19, 2021;  
August 6, 2021**

**IN RE: CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 PUBLIC EMERGENCY  
ORDER CONCERNING FACE MASKS/COVERINGS IN PUBLIC  
AREAS OF NDNY COURTHOUSES**

WHEREAS this Court continues to evaluate its response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and recognizes the need to assist in the preservation of public safety and health while effectively administering justice during this period of national emergency; and

WHEREAS, updated guidance issued July 27, 2021 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates all persons, including fully vaccinated individuals should wear masks in indoor public settings and

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that all persons, including those fully vaccinated individuals entering any United States Courthouse in the Northern District of New York are required to wear a mask in common areas of the courthouse. Face masks should cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides without gaps. While medical masks and N-95 respirators fulfill these requirements, bandanas and “gators” are not an acceptable substitute for the use of a mask.

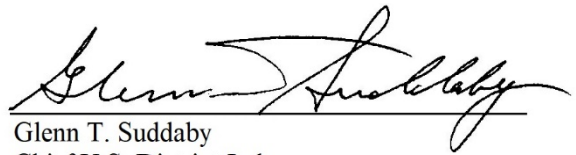
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that signs will be posted at the entrance of each courthouse notifying all visitors of the requirement to wear facial masks/coverings while in common areas. While Court Security Officers manning the entrances of the Courthouse may inform visitors of this requirement, they are prohibited from inquiring as to the vaccination status of any individual.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that policies regarding mask covering and social distancing within a courtroom, jury room or chambers area shall be determined by the presiding/resident judicial officer.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that policies regarding mask covering and social distancing within the internal space of an agency or court unit shall be determined by the agency or court unit occupying that space.

This Order shall be effective **Monday, August 9, 2021** and remain in effect until amended or vacated by the undersigned.

Dated this 6th day of August 2021 at Syracuse, New York

  
Glenn T. Suddaby  
Chief U.S. District Judge