



**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER TRANSITIONING THE  
38<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT TO PHASE FOUR**

WHEREAS on March 26, 2021, the Supreme Court of Missouri issued revised Operational Directives that allow a court to move to Phase Four when approved COVID-19 vaccines are readily available in the community in which the courthouse is located; and

WHEREAS the Presiding Judge has determined, following discussion with the Director for the Christian County Health Department, that COVID-19 vaccines are now readily available in Christian County; and

WHEREAS, there have been no confirmed COVID-19 cases in any court facility in more than fourteen days and local COVID-19 conditions have significantly improved; and

WHEREAS, the Court has been in Phase Three for more than fourteen days;

**THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the court facilities in the 38<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit will transition to Phase Four effective on the date of this Order as follows:

1. Social distancing and masks will continue to be required in the courtrooms and in all public areas of court facilities.
2. Safety precautions will continue to be taken in all public areas of the court facilities and in the circuit courtrooms, including disinfecting and the use of HEPA filters and plexiglass dividers.
3. Videoconferencing will continue to be utilized upon request of the parties or on the court's own motion.
4. In non-public areas of the court facilities:
  - a. court personnel that have no or limited interaction with the public are not required to wear masks or to comply with social distancing requirements;
  - b. court personnel are not required to wear masks or comply with social distancing protocols in shared workspaces or when interacting with other court personnel in non-public areas of the court facility;

- c. court personnel currently on COVID-19 leave should return to the workplace;
- d. fully vaccinated employees who are exposed to someone with COVID-19 are not required to quarantine; and
- e. judicial employees can travel for necessary work-related functions.

These restrictions will remain in place until the March 26, 2021 Order of the Supreme Court of Missouri is amended or rescinded.

**Municipal Courts**

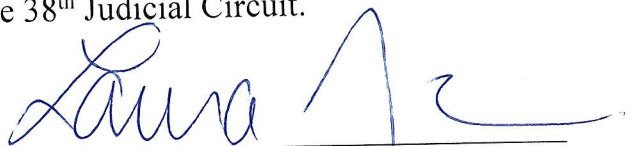
Municipal Courts in Christian County are governed by this Order.

**Questions**

Please email all questions to the clerks of Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4. The name and email address of each Division Clerk may be obtained from the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association.

This Order has been approved by all Judges of the 38<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit.

Date: April 28, 2021

  
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Laura Johnson, Presiding Judge