

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER LIFTING COVID PRECAUTIONS

WHEREAS on February 25, 2022, the Supreme Court of Missouri issued an Order rescinding its previous COVID Directives and returning to presiding judges the authority and discretion to determine the appropriate precautionary measures necessary to protect the well being of those appearing and working in court from COVID-19 as it exists in the local community.

WHEREAS the CDC currently classifies the level of community risk in Christian County as medium, which allows, but does not require, people to wear masks indoors.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the court facilities in the 38<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit will return to normal operations on the date of this Order as follows:

- 1. Social distancing and masks will no longer be required in the courtrooms but court personnel, attorneys, parties and members of the public may wear masks if they choose to do so.
- 2. Disinfectant and HEPA filters will no longer be utilized.
- 3. Videoconferencing and teleconferencing will continue to be utilized upon request of the parties or on the court's own motion.
- 4. Vulnerable litigants, witnesses, victims, attorneys, and participants will be allowed to appear or participate remotely.
- 5. Offsite court proceedings will be discontinued.

## **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 38th Judicial Circuit.

Date: February 28, 2022 Laura Johnson, Presiding Judge