

From: Chief Justice John D. Minton, Jr.
To: Chief Justice John D. Minton, Jr.
Subject: Update from Chief Justice Minton 12-16-21: Reminder to stay safe and healthy this holiday season
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 2:23:43 PM



CDC:

[COVID-19](#) • Kentucky Public Health: [COVID-19](#) • KCOJ: [COVID-19 and the Courts](#)

Update for December 16, 2021

Justices, Judges, Circuit & Appellate Clerks and Kentucky Court of Justice Personnel:

Reminder to stay safe and healthy this holiday season

COVID-19 cases are on the rise in Kentucky, with the majority of counties seeing average daily cases in the red zone. In addition to the highly infectious [Delta variant](#), we're now on alert for the newly identified [Omicron variant](#), which has been found in several states but has not yet reached Kentucky.

As you make plans for the holidays, please consider taking these steps to stay healthy at work and at home:

SAFE AT WORK

[Supreme Court Administrative Order 2021-32](#) provides leave time for the following:

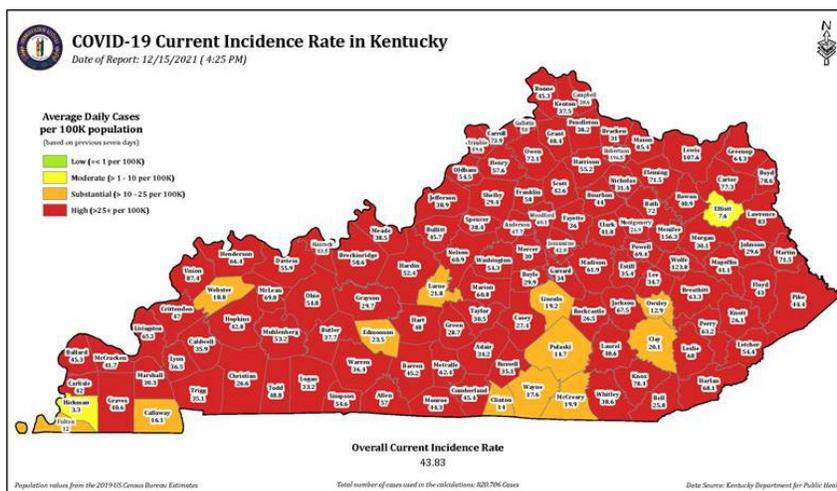
Get Vaccinated & Boosted. COVID vaccinations and booster shots are safe, readily available and highly effective. KCOJ employees are eligible for two hours of paid leave to obtain a vaccine, including boosters, if the vaccine is obtained during work hours. All Kentucky adults [are now eligible](#) to get a booster. Find a location at [vaccine.ky.gov](#). Once approved by your appointing authority, record the hours as EVNT on your timesheet.

Get Tested. Employees may claim one hour of COVID-19 testing leave up to two times per calendar month. Once approved by your appointing authority, record the hour as EVNT on your timesheet.

Stay Home If Sick. If you are displaying symptoms, please stay home to limit the spread of COVID-19. Working from home may be an option. Fully vaccinated employees who are required to isolate due to a positive COVID test are eligible for emergency sick leave. Once you're symptom free, you should get a COVID test and return to work only when it is negative. To request approval for EMSL, email PositiveCovidTest@kycourts.net.

WHEN TO STAY HOME FROM WORK	VACCINATED	UNVACCINATED
Tested positive/have symptoms	Isolate minimum 3-5 days; more may be required. Must be symptom free and have negative test to return.	Isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms.
Tested positive/no symptoms	Isolate minimum 3-5 days; more may be required. Must be symptom free and have negative test to return.	Isolate for 10 days from date of test.
<u>Exposure</u> : Close contact (within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more) with someone with known or suspected COVID-19.	Quarantine not required, but test 3-5 days from exposure to confirm.	Quarantine for 10 days from exposure. May shorten to 7 days with no symptoms and negative COVID test.

Follow Mask Guidelines. Please continue to monitor your county's status on the [Kentucky COVID-19 map](#) (Dec. 15 version below) and take the necessary precautions. Several court facilities are mandating the use of masks among all individuals to limit exposure. We encourage judges, circuit court clerks and appointing authorities to consider a mask mandate if conditions in your county warrant it. Employees at the AOC building on Vandelay Drive in Frankfort are required to wear masks in common areas and when outside their assigned workstations.



SAFE AT HOME

In addition to getting vaccinated/boosted, getting tested and isolating when positive, you are encouraged to avoid gatherings if you are sick or you know someone at the gathering who is sick. It is also a good idea to keep gatherings small and wear masks if you are indoors and unvaccinated and/or not boosted.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health offers additional guidance [here](#). And you can email questions about court protocols to COVIDCourtConcerns@kycourts.net. I hope you and your families have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

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