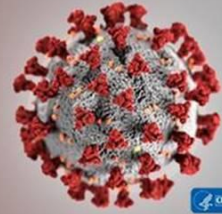


Updates on COVID-19 and Court Operations

What Kentucky Court of Justice elected officials and non-elected personnel need to know



HR Update – May 14, 2021

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

Announcing Latest Changes to COVID-19 Recommended Actions

After the Centers for Disease Control released [updated guidelines](#) for fully vaccinated individuals, Chief Justice Minton announced this morning that court employees and elected officials who are fully vaccinated will no longer be required to wear a mask while in a Kentucky Court of Justice office or facility. However, individuals who are unvaccinated must continue to wear a mask that covers the mouth and nose under Section F(1) of [Supreme Court Order 2021-06](#). The Supreme Court will consider mask requirements for attorneys, parties, jurors and other persons entering a KCOJ office or facility and will provide further guidance next week.

Based on this news, the Department of Human Resources has updated its guidance for COVID-19 recommended actions:

- The CDC defines a person as fully vaccinated two weeks after the second shot of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines or two weeks after the single-dose shot of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.
- Appointing authorities may ask employees if they have been vaccinated and may ask for proof of vaccination. Doing so will be a local choice made by each appointing authority. However, appointing authorities should be consistent in their actions. If an appointing authority requires one employee to submit proof of vaccination, then all employees under his/her supervision must be required to provide that same proof. Appointing authorities should not question the vaccination status of employees who are not under their supervision.
- Appointing authorities should not make comments – positive or negative – about an employee’s vaccine status or ask any additional questions regarding an employee’s health or the reason an employee may not be vaccinated.

- Please be mindful, respectful and courteous to those who continue to wear face masks or face shields due to their own vaccination status or personal health directives. If someone is wearing a mask in the workplace, appointing authorities and co-workers should take that as an indication that the employee wants/needs social distancing to be practiced. Appointing authorities and employees are asked to be cognizant of this nonverbal request and act accordingly.
- [Supreme Court Order 2021-06](#) is still in effect. Citizens who are permitted to enter a KCOJ court facility or office are still required to wear a mask or appropriate facial covering regardless of their vaccine status. If vaccinated KCOJ officials or employees use a public entrance to access a KCOJ court facility or office, we would request that they wear a mask or facial covering when entering the building and until they reach their work destination. This will help bailiffs continue to follow entrance guidelines and reduce potential conflict with citizens.

If you have any questions, please contact Human Resources at COJHR2@kycourts.net. Thank you.

Kevin M. Steele

Director of Human Resources

Administrative Office of the Courts – Kentucky

1001 Vandalay Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601

502-573-2350 ext. 50316

Kentucky Court of Justice Confidentiality Notice

This message and/or attachment is intended only for the addressee and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and/or proprietary work product. If you are not the intended recipient, or an authorized employee, agent or representative of the intended recipient, do not read, copy, retain or disseminate this message or any attachment. Do not forward this message and attachment without the express written consent of the sender. If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete all copies of the message and any attachment. Transmission or misdelivery shall not constitute waiver of any applicable legal privilege.