

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA**

IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING
HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS
FOR COURT FACILITIES IN MARICOPA
COUNTY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2022-019

(AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NOs. 2021-103, 2021-104, and
2021-105)

Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2021-187 authorizes the presiding superior court judge of each county to modify that county’s judicial branch health emergency orders to address the use of social distancing and other health and safety measures to protect employees and the public from the spread of COVID-19. Superior Court Administrative Orders 2021-103, 2021-104, and 2021-105 (as amended by Administrative Orders 2021-112 and 2021-119) establish pandemic-related health and safety requirements for, respectively, the Superior Court, the Justice Courts and the Municipal Courts in Maricopa County. After consultation with the Maricopa County Public Health Department, and based upon its recommendations, certain changes to health and safety protocols are now warranted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED social distancing requirements in the Judicial Branch in Maricopa County and the Justice Courts within Maricopa County will change from six feet apart to three feet apart. Re-marking court spaces accordingly will begin immediately. Spacing will remain at six feet apart in any area of a court facility until the space is re-marked to three feet. Any areas not otherwise marked are subject to three feet spacing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that beginning March 1, 2022, the health screening protocols for all who enter the facilities of the Judicial Branch in Maricopa County and the Justice Courts in Maricopa County will change as follows: upon entering a judicial branch facility, temperatures will no longer be taken. Persons who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the previous five days or persons who self-report having a fever will be barred entry into judicial branch facilities. Persons with any of the following unexplained symptoms of COVID-19—sore throat, runny nose, cough or congestion—will not be allowed access to judicial branch facilities unless they have tested negative for COVID-19 in the previous 48 hours.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the mask requirements in Administrative Order 2021-119 remain in effect for the Judicial Branch in Maricopa County and Justice Court facilities in Maricopa County, including offices of the Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED Municipal court presiding judges within Maricopa County, taking into account the individual circumstances of their court facilities, have the discretion and authority to modify their respective health screening protocols and social spacing requirements consistent with this order and will continue to be governed by Administrative Order No. 2021-169, which allows each municipal court presiding judge to establish mask requirements for their respective court facilities.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Administrative Order 2021-112 is rescinded.

Dated this 24th day of February, 2022.

/s/ Joseph C. Welty
Hon. Joseph C. Welty
Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: All Superior Court Judges
All Superior Court Commissioners
All Justices of the Peace in Maricopa County
All Municipal Court Judges in Maricopa County
Hon. Jeff Fine, Clerk of the Superior Court
Hon. Allister Adel, Maricopa County Attorney
Jennifer Paetkau, Office of Public Defense Services
Dave Byers, Administrative Office of the Courts
Raymond Billotte, Judicial Branch
Bob James, Deputy Court Administrator
Shawn Friend, Deputy Court Administrator
All Department Administrators
Sean Gibbs, Director of Security