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MARCH 11, 2022  
  
CLERK US DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA  
  
BY s/ M. Everett DEPUTY

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

In the matter of  
  
THE USE OF FACE MASKS IN THE  
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA  
COURTHOUSES

GENERAL ORDER 22-10

WHEREAS, federal, state and local public health authorities have advised, and continue to advise, public and private agencies to continue to take necessary and appropriate precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”) and slow the spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) have issued updated guidance regarding the use of face coverings by persons occupying indoor spaces, including public buildings; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has created a COVID-19 Community Level tool that assigns each county into a Low, Medium, or High category based upon real-time COVID-19 transmissibility levels within each community.

WHEREAS, each Division of the Court is made up of multiple counties, each of which may have a different COVID-19 Community Level. The District of Arizona has courthouses located in each of the following counties: Coconino County, Maricopa County, Pima County, and Yuma County.<sup>1</sup>; and

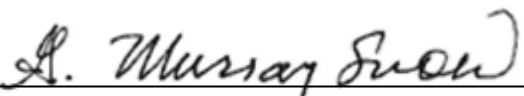
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<sup>1</sup> As of the date of this Order, each county is classified as being in the “Medium” category pursuant to the CDC Guidance, with the exception of Yuma County which remains in the “High” category.

1 IT IS ORDERED, in order to continue to further public health and safety, the health  
2 and safety of Court personnel, counsel, litigants, other case participants, vendors,  
3 contractors, and the general public, and consistent with the CDC guidance noted above, it  
4 is ORDERED as follows:

- 5 1. Consistent with current CDC guidance, the wearing of masks or face coverings is  
6 not required in the Flagstaff, Phoenix, or Tucson courthouses. Masks continue to  
7 be mandatory in the Yuma courthouse until Yuma County's CDC Community  
8 Level drops to at least "medium".
- 9 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 1 above, a presiding judicial officer  
10 may, for any reason, direct that appropriate masks or face coverings be worn by  
11 any person or all persons during in-court proceedings before that judge.
- 12 3. Subject to the provisions of Paragraphs 1 and 2 above, if the use of a face mask is  
13 required by this Order or the presiding judicial officer, the presiding judicial  
14 officer may nonetheless authorize that appropriate masks or face coverings may be  
15 temporarily removed by Court personnel and participants in Court proceedings  
16 when such persons are making an oral presentation or otherwise speaking during  
17 an in-Court proceeding.
- 18 4. Nothing in this Order shall limit the discretion of any Judge or Court Unit  
19 Executive to require the use of face coverings and/or social distancing by Court  
20 staff and visitors in their respective workspace should circumstances so require or  
21 advise.
- 22 5. This Order shall remain in effect until amended or vacated by further Order.

23 DATED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

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27 G. Murray Snow  
28 Chief United States District Judge