

Superior Court of California

COUNTY OF VENTURA Hall of Justice 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

> Brenda L. McCormick Executive Officer/Clerk and Jury Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 19, 2021

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VENTURA SUPERIOR COURT REINSTATES MANDATORY FACE MASK REQUIREMENT FOR ALL PERSONS

Beginning Monday, August 23, 2021, all persons entering any courthouse – regardless of vaccination status – will be required to wear a face mask over both the nose and mouth while in any public area of the courthouse, including courtrooms. Children under the age of two are exempt.

This requirement is governed by Administrative Order 21.16 issued by Presiding Judge Bruce A. Young after consultation with Ventura County Public Health Officer Dr. Robert Levin. The order is not intended to apply to the internal offices of the District Attorney or Public Defender.

Individuals who have a medical condition, mental health condition or disability, may apply for an exemption as an ADA accommodation under the American with Disabilities Act and California Rules of Court, rule 1.100.

Individuals who decline or refuse to wear a face mask without a court order exempting them for the mask requirement will be denied entry to the courthouse. Individuals who remove their face masks after entering the courthouse or courtroom will be reminded to wear them. If they refuse, they may be denied services, have their legal matters rescheduled, and/or be asked to leave the courthouse or courtroom immediately. Persons who refuse to leave voluntarily will be escorted out of the courthouse by Sheriff's Department personnel.

Administrative Order 21.16 can be found on the Ventura Superior Court website at ventura.courts.ca.gov.