

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**AMENDED COVID-19
GENERAL ORDER NO. 20-1
September 28, 2020**

**REGARDING
COURTHOUSE VISITATION AND ACCESS RESTRICTIONS**

To combat the spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), given the severity of risks posed to the public, Court staff, and other agencies located in the Hale Boggs Federal Building and considering the public health recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State of Louisiana, and the City of New Orleans;

The undersigned Chief Judge for United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana hereby amends COVID-19 General Order No. 20-1, effective immediately and until this order is rescinded:

The following persons may not enter the U.S. Courthouse in the Eastern District of Louisiana or any offices occupied in the Hale Boggs Federal Building:

- Persons who have been advised to self-quarantine by any doctor, hospital or health agency within the last 14 days;
- Persons who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or told to presume they have COVID-19 by a health professional within the last 14 days;
- Persons who have had contact in the last 14 days with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or told to presume they have COVID-19 by a health professional, unless the diagnosis was more than 14 days ago and the person diagnosed has been symptom-free for the past 72 hours;
- Persons who have had cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, or extreme fatigue within the last 14 days, unless the symptoms are attributable to another known condition;
- Persons who reside with someone who has had cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, or extreme fatigue within the last 14 days, unless the symptoms are attributable to another known condition;

- Persons who have returned from international travel, a cruise ship, river voyage or returned from travel to a state that has a significant degree of community-wide spread of COVID-19;
- Persons not wearing a mask or face covering over their nose and mouth unless they present medical documentation stating that they are unable to wear a mask for health reasons; and
- Persons exhibiting a fever of 100.4 or higher, unless they can present medical documentation that the symptom is attributable to a condition or diagnosis that is not contagious or transmittable.

Anyone attempting to enter in violation of these protocols will be denied entry by a Court Security Officer or the U.S. Marshals Service.

Anyone who has business in the U.S. Courthouse or offices occupied in the Hale Boggs Federal Building but who cannot enter because of this order, should do the following:

- Persons who are represented by an attorney should contact their attorney;
- Attorneys, pro se litigants, or witnesses who are scheduled to appear in court before a judge should contact the judge's case manager directly (contact information can be found on the Court's website);
- Persons who are scheduled to meet with a Pretrial Services or Probation should contact the Office of Probation and Pretrial at (504) 589-3200;
- Jurors should contact the Jury Department at (504) 589-7730;
- Employees reporting to work should contact their supervisor;
- Persons having business with any other agency housed in the Hale Boggs Federal Building should contact that agency directly;
- For all other matters, please contact the Clerk's Office at (504) 589-7600.

It is further ordered that while in the courthouse, all persons must comply with court and security personnel instructions and the following rules:

1. **Face Coverings:** You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth in all public areas of the courthouse (including hallways, public counters, elevators and courtrooms), unless you are permitted to remove your mask by an authorized court staff member;

2. **Social Distancing:** You must adhere to safe social distancing rules, by standing or sitting at least six feet away from other individuals. You must abide by markings on floors and benches indicating where you may stand or sit. If you are standing in line, you must keep six feet away from the person in front of you and behind you, unless you are taking care of a small child or assisting someone with special needs. Elevator and bathroom capacity will be limited to one person at a time.
3. **Instructional Signage:** You must abide by all health and hygiene signage throughout the courthouse, including signage regarding masks, social distancing, occupancy restrictions, and hand washing.

Anyone who fails or refuses to abide by these rules will be required to leave the courthouse immediately. Anyone who thinks they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should self-quarantine and contact their healthcare provider immediately.

It is further ordered that a Court Security Officer or U.S. Marshal shall deny entry to anyone attempting to enter in violation of these protocols or who fails to abide by the instructions or rules contained herein.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 27th day of September, 2020.



**NANNETTE JOLIVETTE BROWN
CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**