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IN THE JUSTICE COURT OF RENO TOWNSHIP
COUNTY OF WASHOE, STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER OF
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-04

Pursuant to NRS 4.157(c) and JCRRT 21, the Chief Justice of the Peace of Reno Township hereby enters this Administrative Order in response to the State of Emergency declared by Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak on March 12, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, Governor Sisolak’s Declaration has not been rescinded, and over the course of the pandemic the Court has issued numerous Administrative Orders in response to guidance and directives issued by federal, state, and local authorities. On April 28, 2021, this Court entered Administrative Order 2021-02 which, among other things, opened the Court to all in-person access while also permitting most Court calendars to be heard by remote means (Zoom). Although the Order permitted in-person access, it also required all individuals to wear an appropriate face covering while on the premises of Reno Justice Court unless specifically relieved of that requirement by the judge presiding over the applicable case.

Thereafter, on May 13, 2021 the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) issued updated guidance regarding individuals who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Specifically, the CDC announced that fully vaccinated individuals do not need to wear a face covering in any setting, and the Governor’s Office subsequently issued Emergency

1 Directive 045, which adopted the updated CDC standard. The Court then entered Administrative
2 Order 2021-03, in order to implement this new standard.

3 Unfortunately, the circumstances surrounding the pandemic have deteriorated over the
4 past several weeks, and both the Governor's Office and the CDC have issued more restrictive
5 guidance by requiring individuals to wear an appropriate face covering in public indoor settings,
6 regardless of their vaccination status. See *Emergency Declaration Directive 047*, July 27, 2021.

7 THEREFORE, and good cause appearing, the Court hereby ORDERS as follows:

8 (1) Administrative Order 2021-03 is rescinded and supplanted by the terms of this Order.

9 (2) All parties, counsel, members of the general public, and all other individuals are
10 prohibited from entering Reno Justice Court without a mask or other appropriate face
11 covering. All individuals are also prohibited from entering the Court if they meet any
12 of the criteria below:

13 a. They have been instructed to quarantine or isolate by any doctor, hospital, or
14 health agency.

15 b. They have an active case of COVID-19 or have had close personal contact in
16 the past 10 days with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19,
17 unless they have been vaccinated against COVID-19 or tested negative for
18 COVID-19 after having the contact.

19 c. They are currently experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19,
20 including fever, chills, persistent cough, headaches, muscle/body aches,
21 shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting.

22 (3) The Court remains open for all in-person access including any and all court
23 proceedings and access to the Court's first-floor customer-service windows, subject
24 to any occupancy and social-distancing requirements that are necessary to comply
25 with any local or state-wide mandates.

1 (4) Despite the Court’s opening as stated in Paragraph three (3) above, the Court will
2 continue to hold many criminal and civil hearings by remote means (Zoom) when
3 appropriate, pursuant to the following:

4 a. Criminal trials and preliminary hearings will be set as in-person proceedings,
5 unless the parties stipulate to, or the Court orders, a remote proceeding via
6 Zoom. All other criminal hearings will be set as remote proceedings, but the
7 parties may request (or the presiding judge may *sua sponte* order) an in-
8 person proceeding on a case-by-case basis. The Court will also consider
9 requests for “hybrid” proceedings where some parties or witnesses appear in-
10 person while others appear remotely via Zoom.

11 b. Trials in “formal” civil actions (those initiated by a formal complaint and
12 summons) and small claims trials will be set as in-person proceedings, unless
13 the parties stipulate to, or the Court orders, a remote proceeding via Zoom.
14 All other civil proceedings (including all eviction hearings (other than cases
15 filed as formal civil actions); temporary and extended protection order
16 hearings; and supplemental hearings) will be set as remote hearings via Zoom,
17 unless the parties stipulate to, or the Court orders, an in-person hearing. The
18 Court will also consider requests for “hybrid” proceedings where some parties
19 or witnesses appear in-person while others appear remotely via Zoom.

20 (5) Individuals who need to file documents in Court are strongly urged to do so by
21 accessing the Court’s electronic filing system (for civil actions only) or by e-mailing
22 an electronic copy of the document to the following e-mail addresses:

23 a. Civil cases: RJCCivil@washoecounty.us

24 b. Criminal cases: RJCCriminal@washoecounty.us

25 c. Citation (traffic) cases: RJCCitations@washoecounty.us

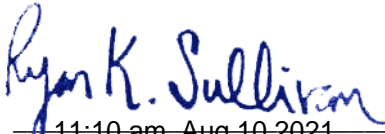
1 Any documents submitted to the Court for filing shall include a proof of service upon
2 the other party(ies) to the case.

3 (6) The practice of automatically live-streaming all Court proceedings via YouTube to
4 facilitate public and media access has been terminated by previous order. However,
5 the video stream may be reinstated by the Court on a case-by-case basis if deemed
6 necessary and appropriate by the presiding judge.

7 (7) Exceptions to this order may be made on a case-by-case basis upon the parties'
8 request or *sua sponte* by the presiding judge.

9 (8) This Order shall remain in effect until it is modified or rescinded by a subsequent
10 order.

11
12 DATED this 10th day of August 2021.

13 

14 ~~11:10 am, Aug 10 2021~~
15 RYAN K. SULLIVAN
16 ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
17 RENO JUSTICE COURT
18 DEPARTMENT 3
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