

## STATE OF OHIO, WARREN COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT

IN RE:

Sixth Supplemental Entry and Order  
for certain restrictions to the use,  
occupancy and traffic for the  
Courthouse Facility located at 500  
Justice Drive, Lebanon, Ohio  
following orders issued by the Ohio  
Department of Health

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20MS000328

This matter is before the Court, *sua sponte*, for review of the practices and procedures of the Court during the public health crisis and upon the concurrence of a majority of the Common Pleas Court judges.

On March 16, 2020, the Court entered a Temporary Order In Response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Public Health Crisis and an Entry and Order For Certain Restrictions to the Use, Occupancy and Traffic for the Courthouse Facility. Those findings are incorporated by reference as if fully rewritten herein.

On July 23, 2020, the Court issued an Entry and Order finding the Department of Health Interim Director’s orders to be an unconstitutional exercise of executive power as applied to the courthouse and court personnel engaged in their official duties.

On February 16, 2021, in response to a directive by the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court to mandate masks, the Court issued its Fifth Supplemental Entry and Order for Certain Restrictions to the use, Occupancy and Traffic for the Courthouse Facility located at 500 Justice Drive.

On May 11, 2021, the Warren County Commissioners passed Resolution 21-0645 establishing a facial covering policy for county buildings.

On May 12, 2021, Governor DeWine announced that all Ohio’s health orders would be lifted in three weeks and that State Health Director Stephanie McCloud would halt all such orders, except those dealing with long-term care facilities.

On May 13, 2021, the Center for Disease Control issued new guidance, specifically relating to masks and ‘fully vaccinated’ individuals.

For the purpose of this Entry and Order, ‘the Court’ shall refer to the General, Civil, Domestic Relations and Criminal Divisions of the Warren County Common Pleas Court.

For the purpose of this Entry and Order, ‘the Courthouse’ shall include the facility located at 500 Justice Drive, Lebanon, Ohio, excluding the Board of Elections and the Warren County Prosecutor’s Office. It shall also include the Clerk of Courts, Adult

Probation and Community Corrections. It shall also apply to Telecom and Emergency Services, unless those areas are separately secured to prevent any individuals from those departments from entering the Court facilities.

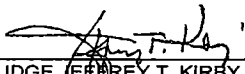
This Entry and Order is effective May 20, 2021.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**


1. The Courthouse is OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
  2. MASKS. The wearing of masks, face coverings or other personal protective equipment is not required in the Courthouse. It is permitted, subject to the following:
    - a) A mask/face covering shall be removed at the specific direction of the judge or magistrate for good cause for a specific purpose or for a specific hearing.
    - b) The Court shall adopt separate administrative directives governing personnel, probation officers and other judicial staff.
    - c) The Clerk of Courts, the Child Support Enforcement Agency and the Law Library are permitted to make additional restrictions for the Courthouse space occupied by them. Such restrictions shall not be less restrictive than the requirements of this Order.
- a) CONDUCT WITHIN THE COURTHOUSE. All individuals entering the Courthouse shall be subject to the following:
- a) No individual, including but not limited to staff, county employees, attorneys, litigants or members of the public, shall enter or remain in the Courthouse if ANY of the following apply:
    - He or she has a fever;
    - He or she exhibits all three of the following symptoms: 1) respiratory symptoms (chronic cough), 2) sore throat, and 3) shortness of breath;
    - He or she has traveled out of the country within the last 14 days;
    - He or she has been in contact with a person who is under investigation or has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.
  - b) Members of the public, litigants and attorneys may be subject to a health care screening and non-invasive temperature test before being admitted into the Courthouse.
  - c) All individuals shall maintain appropriate social distancing of 6 feet.
- b) The Courtrooms are OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS.
- c) FILINGS. The Clerk of Courts is OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS.

- d) Hearings will be conducted either in person or by phone at the direction of the assigned judge or magistrate.
- e) ATTORNEY WAITING AREA. The attorney waiting area shall be reopened and counsel for proceedings in Courtrooms 2, 3 and 4 shall be directed to this area, unless otherwise ordered by court personnel.
- f) The NOTICE TO INDIVIDUALS ENTERING THE BUILDING attached hereto shall be posted at the Courthouse door, conspicuously throughout the Courthouse and on the Court's website.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

  
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JUDGE JEFFREY T. KIRBY  
Domestic Relations Judge

  
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Donald E. Oda II  
General Division Judge

  
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Robert W. Peeler  
General Division Judge

# NOTICE

## TO ALL INDIVIDUALS SEEKING TO ENTER THE COURTHOUSE

*Supplemental #5*

- 1) No individual, including but not limited to staff, county employees, attorneys, litigants or members of the public, shall enter or remain in the Courthouse if ANY of the following apply:
  - He or she has a fever;
  - He or she exhibits all three of the following symptoms: 1) respiratory symptoms (chronic cough), 2) sore throat, and 3) shortness of breath;
  - He or she has traveled out of the country within the last 14 days;
  - He or she has been in contact with a person who is under investigation or has tested positive for the coronavirus.
- 2) Members of the public, litigants and attorneys may be subject to a health screening and/or temperature tested upon entering the building.
- 3) All individuals shall maintain appropriate social distancing of 6 feet.
- 4) **MASKS ARE NOT REQUIRED.** Face coverings, masks and/or other personal protective equipment are permitted in the Courthouse, but are not required, unless you are specifically directed otherwise by court personnel.