

ORDER 20-01
(COVID-19 ORDER)

**In the Matter of Personal Protection, Face Masks, and Other Safety
Procedures for Customers and Patrons Entering Wheat Ridge Municipal
Court**

WHEREAS the City of Wheat Ridge City is under various requirements pursuant to State, County and Municipal decree that require employees, customers, and visitors who enter the City Hall Building at 7500 West 29th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, CO, to adhere to various infectious disease-related safety measures.

AND WHEREAS, Colorado and the world are experiencing a widespread and contagious respiratory illness known as Covid-19. Current thought is that it can be spread by being in the proximity of someone with the infection. Exposure can occur through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. For these reasons, people are at an increased risk of infection when around other persons. Court hearings, trials, arraignments, and meetings with staff and others sometimes requires the appearance of court patrons in-person. Often due to the necessities of legal matters and litigation, patrons and employees are in close proximity to one another. Therefore, the Court Orders as follows:

No person may enter the court room unless wearing a face mask. For guidance, face masks are to:

- Fit snugly against the front and side of the face
- Be secure
- Include layers of fabric
- Allow for breathing

Be clean and in good repair

- Be on the wearer's mouth and nose
- Be laundered unless disposable

Visitors and patrons should provide their own face masks.

Additional court room requirements and precautions due to the seriousness and contagiousness of the disease are ordered as follows:

The Presiding Judge, Court Administrator, Court Marshal, Assistant City Attorney, Probation Officer, or G4S lobby guard are authorized to deny entrance to or remove from the court lobby and courtroom any person showing signs or symptoms of Covid-19.

Patrons exhibiting Center for Disease Control and/or Jefferson County Department of Public Health defined symptoms and vulnerable populations should arrange to appear by audio-video means or telephone connection. Contact Wheat Ridge Municipal Court at 303-235-2835.

City or court staff may require the taking of body temperatures depending on the symptoms or statements of a visitor. This will be non-invasive and non-touch. Any person with a temperature of 100.4 or more will need to leave and to appear at a later date by audio-video or telephone.

To the extent possible and as recommended by infectious disease experts, maintain safe distancing with staff and non-family members. Adhere to a distance of six (6) feet to the extent practicable.

Due to the nature of infection and contamination, only defendants, witnesses, attorneys, parents, guardians, case managers, and care givers may enter the courtroom. Please leave friends and family at home or in your car. The on-duty courtroom judge may make exceptions.

Hand sanitizer is recommended and is available for public use. Medical grade, latex, synthetic rubber, or other similar type flexible gloves are recommended. Patrons are to provide their own protective gloves.

No more than ten (10) persons are allowed in the courtroom at any one time. Four (4) of these persons are court staff. Therefore, no more than six (6) additional persons may enter. The on duty courtroom judge may make exceptions on a case by case basis.

The court anticipates that many matters will have to be rescheduled. Although court staff may attempt to reschedule matters, the party is ultimately responsible for doing so by contacting court staff. Unless the matter has been rescheduled by the court, the party shall appear via remote technology or in-person as scheduled and permitted by this Order. No party may fail to appear without court authorization. The failure to appear may result in the issuance of a bench warrant.

This Order may change on short-notice depending upon the most current infectious disease information from the State, County, or City.

This ORDER is effective as of and including September 21, 2020, and remains in effect until rescinded by the Presiding Judge.

DONE AND SIGNED BY THE COURT on the 21st day of SEPTEMBER, 2020.

BY THE COURT:



CHRISTOPHER D RANDALL

PRESIDING JUDGE

WHEAT RIDGE MUNICIPAL COURT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR DELIVERY

I hereby certify that the above ORDER 20-01 was placed in the U.S. mail, postage prepaid, sent by facsimile, or hand-delivered this _____ day of _____, 2020, addressed to:

• _____