



# News Release

## Superior Court of California, County of Kern

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### FACE MASKS REQUIRED IN ALL COURTHOUSE BUILDINGS FOR UNVACCINATED INDIVIDUALS

On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Orders [N-07-21](#) and [N-08-21](#) and the State Public Health Officer issued an [order](#) rescinding the Blueprint for a Safer Economy, which substantially decreased the face covering requirements for vaccinated individuals and removing social distancing requirements effective June 15, 2021.

In light of the new authority, the Kern County Superior Court will modify its Emergency Local Rule No. 2. Starting on June 28, 2021, members of the public who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 will no longer be required to wear a face mask when entering the courthouse. The act of entering a courthouse building without a mask will be considered self-attestation to the fact that the individual has been fully vaccinated. Members of the public may be asked to produce official proof of their vaccination status.

All unvaccinated members of the public will still be required to wear a face mask at all times while in a courthouse facility. Face masks must completely cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of the face without gaps. The only exceptions are when an individual is eating or drinking, or when an accommodation is required and approved.

All jurors and prospective jurors will also self-attest to their vaccination status. However, their self-attestation will require the completion of a form, which will be maintained confidentially by the Jury Department.

Individual judicial officers may exercise their individual discretion to require that all individuals in their courtroom remain masked, regardless of vaccination status.

Please review the modified [Emergency Local Rule No. 2](#) for more details.

The Court continues to encourage all members of the public to continue to wear face masks as the health and welfare of the Court employees, litigants, attorneys, justice partners and the public are the Court's priority.

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