

IN THE STATE OF TEXAS §
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§
COUNTY OF HARRIS §

ORDER OF THE HARRIS COUNTY LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
CONCERNING ADDITIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The Fortieth Emergency Order of the Texas Supreme Court confirms the judiciary's authority to take reasonable actions to avoid exposing persons participating in court proceedings to COVID-19. The Order acknowledges the judiciary's broad inherent authority to control orderly proceedings in courtrooms, which is further confirmed by the Texas Attorney General Opinion KP-0322. Court proceedings, including jury service and in-person attendance at hearings and other court settings, involve groups of people in reasonably close contact.

In order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, it is ordered that all individuals entering the following courthouses must wear a face covering that covers both the nose and mouth while in the public areas of:

- the Harris County Civil Courthouse, 201 Caroline St., Houston, Texas;
- the Harris County Criminal Justice Center, 1201 Franklin St., Houston, Texas;
- the Harris County Juvenile Justice Center, 1200 Congress St., Houston, Texas;
- the 1910 Courthouse, 301 Fannin St., Houston, Texas;
- the Harris County Family Law Center, 1115 Congress St., Houston, Texas; and
- any auxiliary courthouse, including, but not limited to, the jury assembly areas of NRG Arena, 1 NRG Park.

An individual who refuses to comply with this Order will be prohibited from entering the courthouse.

This Order is effective on August 12, 2021 and remains in effect until October 1, 2021. This Order may be extended.

Signed: August 11, 2021.



The Honorable Robert K. Schaffer
Harris County Local Administrative Judge



I, Marilyn Burgess, District Clerk of Harris County, Texas certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original record filed and or recorded in my office, electronically or hard copy, as it appears on this date.

Witness my official hand and seal of office this August 11, 2021

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Marilyn Burgess, DISTRICT CLERK
HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

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