

COVID-19 SUPPLEMENTAL IMPANELMENT INSTRUCTION

[can be inserted into p. 2 of the impanelment instruction (1.100),
before the prosecutor and defense attorneys introduce themselves]

You will be required to wear a mask, which covers your mouth and nose, while in the courthouse. If you do not have a mask when you arrive each day, one will be provided to you at the front door.

If this trial lasts more than one day, and you experience COVID-19 symptoms overnight, or become aware of a potential COVID-19 exposure, do not come to court tomorrow. Instead, call the court officer at a number that will be provided to you.

Everyone in the courthouse is required to wear a face mask at all times. I have made a few exceptions, for specific periods during this trial, due to a “substantial necessity.” Attorneys who are vaccinated may be permitted to remove their masks when speaking. I have been vaccinated, and I may remove my mask when providing you with certain instructions, to make it easier for you to hear me.

The witnesses will be permitted to remove their masks when they are introduced to you in a moment, and while testifying from the witness stand. I will ask the defendant to remove their mask at

certain times during the trial so that you and the witnesses may see their face.

In a few minutes, each potential juror will be brought up to the side of my bench, one at a time, so that I may ask you some additional questions in a location where other jurors will not be able to hear your answers, and I can address questions you may have. During this individual questioning, you will be permitted to remove your mask while responding if you so choose. If you choose to remain masked, you may do so. You will be required to wear a mask at all other times.

We are taking these precautionary steps to protect all court users' health and safety, and to create an environment in which you as jurors can focus on the trial, the evidence, and my instructions.