

**KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE**

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**King County**

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# CLERK'S ALERT

## Mask Requirement, Social Distancing Remain in Effect at King County Superior Court

As various agencies and organizations in Washington prepare to lift their COVID-19 restrictions, King County Superior Court is reminding the public that the requirement to wear a mask and maintain a distance of six feet from others remains in effect at all King County Superior Court public spaces, including courtrooms.

[Emergency Order 19](#), which has no expiration date, outlines the Court's COVID-19 safety protocol. The order remains in effect until further notice. It includes enhanced cleaning, air filtration, and signage inside all Court locations.

On July 1, 2021, the Washington Supreme Court will allow its statewide order to expire on public health restrictions. This is simply a return of "local rule" to Washington's courts.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the Washington Supreme Court has authorized courts across the state to do whatever is necessary and reasonable to protect public health, even if it results in differences among courts.

King County Superior Court's Public Health Committee is advised by University of Washington School of Public Health Professors Scott Meschke and Marty Cohen, with guidance from public health officials with King County and the State Department of Health. As throughout the pandemic, the Committee regularly reviews local public health indicators, court activity, and other factors, and will determine when less restrictive policies are appropriate.

An essential function or business, King County Superior Court is exempted from Governor Inslee's phased approach to re-opening.