

July 29, 2021

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

By Deputy Clerk 

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE: MASK MANDATE IN  
THE HOUSTON DIVISION  
UNDER THE EXIGENT  
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED  
BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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§  
§  
§

SPECIAL ORDER H-2021-15

**ORDER**

This Order applies in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas and supersedes Special Order H-2021-14.

Effective July 30, 2021, all individuals who enter the Bob Casey United States Courthouse in Houston, Texas must wear a mask and practice social distancing in courthouse public areas. Mask wearing inside courtrooms and chambers are at the discretion of each presiding judicial officer. This order applies to employees, contractors, jurors and prospective jurors, lawyers, litigants, witnesses, family members, court observers, and other members of the public.

This order is subject to the district-wide policy for the Southern District of Texas requiring all courthouse employees who work with venire panels and jurors to be both vaccinated and masked.

This order remains in place subject to further court order.

Signed this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.



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LEE H. ROSENTHAL  
CHIEF JUDGE