

In The Court of Common Pleas
Butler County Ohio
Juvenile Division

In Re: Butler County Juvenile Court

Emergency Order
Effective May 4, 2020

Public Access

Public access to the Juvenile Court 280 N. Fair Avenue building shall be limited to any person accessing the Clerk's Office for filing, Court parties, attorneys, alleged victims, subpoenaed witnesses, media, police officers, any youth on reporting probation, contractors, mail carriers/delivery persons, and supply deliverers.

Persons who do not have official business to conduct with the court should not come to the building, and they may have their access to the building restricted during the public health emergency.

Anyone entering an office or building is also subject to a health screening or non-invasive testing, including a check with a touch-free thermometer, and admission is based on the results of the screening or test.

Face Coverings Required

Any Juvenile Court employee or any other person entering 280 N. Fair Avenue to access any Juvenile Court hearing or Juvenile Court services shall wear facial coverings while at the 280 N. Fair Avenue building. Individuals entering 280 N. Fair Avenue are encouraged to bring their own facial covering; however, the Court will provide a mask if a person does not have access to their own facial covering. Upon the Court's discretion, an exception to this order may be made for the following reasons:

1. Facial coverings are not advisable due to a medically documented health reason. This exception requires approval by the Court's Director of Administrative Services.
2. Facial coverings are not required when an employee works alone in an assigned work area, or is otherwise socially distant, ie; six (6) feet.
3. There is a functional (practical) reason for an employee not to wear a facial covering in the workplace. This exception shall be approved in advance by the employee's manager.

At minimum, facial coverings (masks) should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin, but not obscure the identity of any person. A person's face covering shall be worn at all times while the person is within the public areas of the building, including courtrooms.

Along with a required face covering, all persons are also required to follow social distancing guidelines of maintaining six (6) or more feet from others.

Juvenile Court hearing officers shall have the discretion to make exceptions regarding face coverings in their respective courtrooms for the following reasons:

1. Health, safety, or security of the courtroom.
2. The interests of justice cannot be served by parties, attorneys or witnesses wearing a mask.
3. When a participant is speaking or offering testimony.
4. Any other valid reason approved by the Administrative Judge.



Ronald R Craft
Administrative Judge