IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Administrative Order 2021-36-Temp

UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS PURSUANT TO AOSC21-17 (AMENDMENT 1)

(a) Pursuant to Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution, and section 43.26, Florida Statutes, the chief judge of each judicial circuit is charged with the authority and the power to do everything necessary to promote the prompt and efficient administration of justice.

(b) On July 29, 2021, the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court issued AOSC21-17, Amendment 1 (July 29, 2021), in recognition of increased COVID-19 cases throughout the state of Florida, by revising health and safety protocols and allowing for trial court chief judges to implement mandatory wearing of face masks by all persons in a courthouse if warranted by local health conditions.

(c) Local COVID-19 health conditions have steadily worsened over the past several weeks. Based on these developments, it is appropriate to reinstitute the mandatory wearing of face masks in Broward County courthouse facilities.

(d) In accordance with the authority vested in the Chief Judge by Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution, section 43.26, Florida Statutes, Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.215, Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC21-17, Amendment 1 (July 29, 2021) it is hereby **ORDERED, effective Monday, August 2, 2021:**

(1) <u>Health and Safety Protocols</u>

Every person entering a courthouse facility, except children less than 2 years old, must wear a face mask at all times, including common areas and courtrooms.

(2) <u>Baker Act and Marchman Act Proceedings</u>

Hearings to determine whether an individual should be involuntarily committed under the Baker Act or the Marchman Act may be conducted remotely if ordered by the chief judge or presiding judge or, if not, must be conducted in person.

(3) Effect on Previous Administrative Orders

Except as amended herein, Administrative Order 2021-29-Temp (Amendment 1) remains in full force and effect.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 30th day of July, 2021.

/s/ Jack Tuter
Jack Tuter, Chief Judge