

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEWYORK**

**GENERAL ORDER #61**

**October 8, 2020  
Revised May 19, 2021;  
August 6, 2021  
March 1, 2022  
September 16, 2022  
October 24, 2022**

**IN RE: CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 PUBLIC EMERGENCY  
ORDER CONCERNING FACE MASKS/COVERINGS IN PUBLIC  
AREAS OF NDNY COURTHOUSES**

WHEREAS this Court continues to evaluate its response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and recognizes the need to assist in the preservation of public safety and health while effectively administering justice during this period of national emergency; and

WHEREAS, updated guidance issued February 25, 2022 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lifted the mask mandate in areas except those where COVID-19 transmission rates remain high.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that all building occupants and visitors are strongly encouraged, but not required, to wear a mask in the common areas of any United States Courthouse in the Northern District of New York where the COVID-19 Community transmission level for the county is designated as high.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that policies regarding mask covering and social distancing within a courtroom, jury room or chambers area shall be determined by the presiding/resident judicial officer.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that policies regarding mask covering and social distancing within the internal space of an agency or court unit shall be determined by the

agency or court unit occupying that space.

This Order shall be effective **Monday, October 24, 2022** and remain in effect until amended or vacated by the undersigned.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022 at Syracuse, New York

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brenda K. Sannes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Brenda K. Sannes  
Chief U.S. District Judge