

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT**

IN RE:
COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19

GENERAL ORDER

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WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared a national emergency, and the Governor of the State of Connecticut has declared a public health emergency throughout the State,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has advised people to take precautions in light of the COVID-19 virus (coronavirus) outbreak, and has noted that the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus, through, among other means, social distancing,

WHEREAS, the CDC and the State of Connecticut have recently updated their guidance concerning quarantine periods,

WHEREAS, the Court continues to review its operations to identify measures that will help slow the spread of the virus by minimizing contact between persons, while at the same time preserving its core mission of serving the public through the fair and impartial administration of justice,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, **effective immediately and until further order of the Court**, that:

- 1) This order supersedes the General Order entered on December 14, 2020.
- 2) The following persons shall not enter any courthouse in the District of Connecticut:
 - Persons who have, within the past 14 days, experienced fever or flu-like symptoms or the loss of the sense of taste or smell;
 - Persons who have tested positive for COVID-19, unless at least 14 days have passed from the positive test or the experience of fever, flu-like symptoms, or the loss of the sense of taste or smell, whichever is later;
 - Persons who have had close contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, unless (i) at least 14 days have passed from either the close contact

with that other person or that other person's experience of fever, flu-like symptoms, or the loss of the sense of taste or smell, whichever is later; or (ii) the person seeking to enter the courthouse has been fully vaccinated, i.e., at least 14 days have passed since the administration of a one-shot vaccine or the second shot of a two-shot vaccine. For purposes of this order, "close contact" means closer than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes cumulative over a 24-hour period or any in-person interaction where a person is unmasked regardless of duration.

- Persons who have traveled outside the United States at any time within the past 14 days. Such persons may, however, enter a courthouse in this District if they meet all of the following three requirements: (i) they have had a COVID-19 test following arrival in CT, (ii) the result of the test was negative, and (iii) they show proof of the negative test at the courthouse entrance.

SO ORDERED:

Dated: March 29, 2021
Bridgeport, CT

/s/ Stefan R. Underhill

Stefan R. Underhill
Chief United State District Judge