

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND JUVENILE BRANCH
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

20JU-03-3181

**EIGHTH AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER (AO) IN RESPONSE
TO THE COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

The Administrative Judge of the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, on behalf of the other Judges of this Bench, hereby makes the following Findings of Fact:

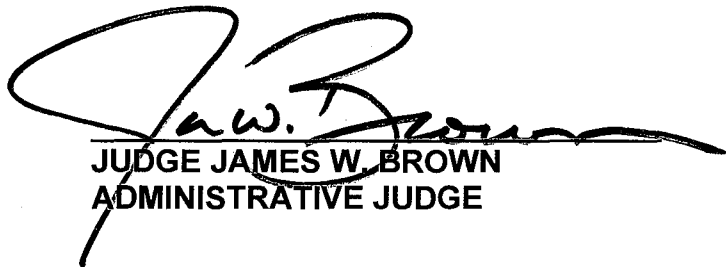
1. Since March 9, 2020, when Ohio Governor Mike DeWine initially issued Executive Order 2020-01D “Declaring a State of Emergency” in response to the growing COVID-19 public health crisis through May 1, 2020, this Court has issued a series of Administrative Orders setting forth COVID-19 protocols dictating Court operations.
2. This Court has been advised by Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator for the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, that Franklin County Public Health is rescinding its universal mask mandate effective immediately. This action is consistent with the actions taken by the CDC and Ohio Department of Health.

Based upon these Findings of Fact, the Franklin County Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch of the Court of Common Pleas **HEREBY ORDERS:**

1. Effective **March 7, 2022**, the prior mask mandates previously ordered by this Court shall be vacated forthwith, terminating any and all obligations for the wearing of masks while inside the courthouse.
2. Litigants, counsel and/or other Court visitors who display any symptom that *could be reasonably construed* as related to COVID-19 shall still be required to leave the courthouse immediately; their cases or business shall be continued.

3. Individuals should be mindful of the nature of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and should continue to maintain the personal hygiene and safety habits acquired during this health crisis.
4. This Amended Administrative Order in Response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Public Health Crisis shall be communicated to the Franklin County Commissioners, other Franklin County Courts and local justice partners. This document, and any amendments thereto, shall be posted to the DRJ Court website: <https://drj.fccourts.org>.
5. ***All other COVID-19 protocols and/or policies previously effectuated by the Court pursuant to its prior Administrative Orders are hereby terminated.***
6. Some COVID-19 protocols will remain in place in the Juvenile Intervention Center (JIC), as advised by our health partners and determined by the Superintendent of the detention facility. Anyone entering or doing business within the JIC shall follow such protocols.

IT IS SO ORDERED:



JUDGE JAMES W. BROWN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

ISSUE DATE: March 1, 2022