PMO-SJC-9

STATE OF MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH
PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT ORDER
Order Issued December 22, 2020

Emergency Order and Notice from the Maine Supreme Judicial Court Concerning Access to State Courthouses

In light of public health concerns arising from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), Maine's Judicial Branch continues to adapt its processes and protocols in order to adhere to the guidance provided by the Maine and United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and comply with the Governor's Executive Orders. Although Maine rates of infection had remained relatively low, recent events in certain counties have caused an uptick in new cases that the Maine CDC has described as "very concerning." This rise in incidence requires increased vigilance. As a result, the Judicial Branch has put in place additional safeguards at its courthouses. Those safeguards are: (A) universal use of the COVID-19 exposure screening questions and (B) use of temperature screening. To implement those changes, the Court issues the following order:

> **Effective immediately and continuing until April 2, 2021,** all persons entering Maine's state courthouses will be required to respond to the COVID-19 exposure screening questions,[1] and submit to a temperature screening. All members of the public and all attorneys will be required to enter all courthouses through the public entrances. Those attorneys possessing and displaying entry screening bypass cards will be permitted to bypass the weapons screening component of entry screening, but will be required to answer the COVID-19 screening questions.

Dated: December 22, 2020

For the Court:

/s/
Andrew M. Mead
Acting Chief Justice

[1] The entry screening questions and process may be accessed at: https://www.courts.maine.gov/covid19/notice.html