IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

May 15, 2020

NO. 20-8500-017

IN THE MATTER OF THE USE OF PROTECTIVE FACE COVERINGS IN NEW MEXICO COURTS DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

ORDER

WHEREAS, this matter having come before the Court upon recommendation to require the use of protective face coverings during the COVID-19 public health emergency, and the Court having considered the recommendation and being sufficiently advised, Chief Justice Judith K. Nakamura, Justice Barbara J. Vigil, Justice Michael E. Vigil, Justice C. Shannon Bacon, and Justice David K. Thomson concurring;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that, effective May 16, 2020, the use of a mask or other protective face covering that covers the nose and mouth shall be required by anyone entering and while in a courthouse, judicial building, or other physical space used, occupied, or operated by the New Mexico Judiciary, provided that this order shall not apply to the following individuals:

(1) young children who are unable to remove the face covering without assistance;

(2) anyone who has trouble breathing; or

(3) anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all judicial officers and employees of the New Mexico Judiciary shall continue to use masks or other protective face coverings as previously directed by the Court; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order shall remain in effect until amended or withdrawn by future order of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

WITNESS, the Honorable Judith K. Nakamura, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico, and the seal of said Court this 15th day of May, 2020.

Joey D. Moya, Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court
of the State of New Mexico