Maine Judicial Branch adds temperature checks to COVID-19 courthouse safety screenings; extends the date for COVID-19 FED procedures to March 31, 2021

Date: 12/22/2020

The Maine Judicial Branch today issued a revised Pandemic Management Order, PMO-SJC-6, and a new order, PMO-SJC-9, in response to an uptick in reported COVID-19 cases in Maine.

PMO-SJC-6, effective December 22, 2020 contains emergency rules for Forcible Entry and Detainer (FED or eviction) cases, including that the initial status conference in FED cases be scheduled and held by telephone. Today's revised order changes the date through which the emergency rules will apply from December 31, 2020 to March 31, 2021.

PMO-SJC-9, effective December 22, 2020 through April 2, 2021, requires that all persons entering state courthouses submit to temperature screening in addition to other COVID-19 safety measures. All members of the public, including attorneys, will be required to enter the courthouse through the public entrance.

More information on Maine courts response to COVID-19 can be found on the Judicial Branch website here: https://www.courts.maine.gov/covid19/index.html. (https://www.courts.maine.gov/covid19/index.html.)

A summary of courthouse visitor restrictions can be found here: https://www.courts.maine.gov/covid19/notice.html. (https://www.courts.maine.gov/covid19/notice.html.)

Public hours at Maine courthouses have been reduced in response to COVID-19. Before making a trip to a courthouse while COVID-19 safety procedures are in place, please check the Court Alerts page on the Judicial Branch website here: https://www.courts.maine.gov/courts/alerts.shtml. (https://www.courts.maine.gov/courts/alerts.shtml.)

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Supporting documents

Press Release (PDF) (https://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/attach.php?id=3823205&an=1)

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