

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

400 McAllister Street, Room 205
San Francisco, CA 94102-4512
Phone: 415-551-5737
FAX: 415-551-5701



T. MICHAEL YUEN
COURT EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Contact:

Ken Garcia
(415) 551-5957
kgarcia@sftc.org

Follow Us on Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/SFSuperiorCourt>

RELEASE DATE: March 4, 2022

FACE MASKS REMAIN MANDATORY IN ALL SAN FRANCISCO COURTS

SAN FRANCISCO - The San Francisco Superior Court announced this week that it will continue its policy requiring employees, justice partners and members of the public to wear face masks inside all San Francisco courthouses.

"The health and safety of the public remains our top priority," said Samuel K. Feng, Presiding Judge of the San Francisco Superior Court. "We will continue to monitor health and safety guidelines, but at this point we will proceed with caution and continue our policy of requiring masks for everyone who comes to our courts."

Although the San Francisco Department of Public Health recently relaxed its masking rules inside city buildings, the court is an independent state entity and is authorized to establish its own policies. The Presiding Judge and the court's executive committee are responsible for setting policy for the court. Judicial officers have broad discretion over proceedings in their individual courtrooms.

Individuals who refuse to wear a face mask may be denied entry into a courthouse. Those who ask for an exemption to the masking requirement while present in court may make the request to a judge. Any person who refuses to wear a face covering after being directed to do so by a judicial officer may be removed from the courthouse for failure to comply with this directive.

The court will reschedule or postpone court dates, if necessary, to accommodate those who are ill due to COVID-19.

###

