

FILED

2022 SEP -7 AM 11:53

CLERK OF COURT  
*Adriana*

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS

GENERAL ORDER REGARDING CHANGES  
IN COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

GENERAL ORDER  
2022-017

*CR . 22.999999*

The Court makes the following findings:

In making changes to its COVID-19 protocols, the Stanislaus County Superior Court (“Court”) relies on guidance it receives from public health officials including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA).

The CDC has established COVID-19 “Community Levels” to provide such guidance. Community Levels can be “low”, “medium” or “high” – depending on the reported COVID-19

1 metrics in a given community. The CDC’s recommendations and guidance for preventing  
2 transmission of the COVID-19 virus change depending on the community’s level.

3 Stanislaus County’s Community Level has fluctuated from “low” to “medium” to “high”  
4 over the past six (6) months – occasionally staying at one level for a short period of time before  
5 changing. For instance, as of August 25, 2022, the Community Level fell to “medium” –  
6 however, on September 5, 2022, the Community Level was once again reported as “high”. The  
7 level change on September 5, 2022, rendered the existing General Order Regarding Changes in  
8 COVID-19 protocols obsolete. Rather than issue a new General Order each time the Community  
9 Level changes, the Court finds it appropriate to enter a universal order making it clear what  
10 COVID-19 protocols will be in place when Stanislaus County is reported to be at each level –  
11 “low”, “medium” and “high”.  
12  
13

14 Therefore, the Court will immediately implement the following COVID-19 protocols  
15 when the CDC determines the Community Level is “high”:  
16

- 17 - All persons entering Court facilities will be required to wear masks;
- 18 - Public access to Court facilities will be restricted to attorneys, parties, witnesses, and jurors;
- 19 - All non-confidential proceedings in criminal cases will be streamed live on the Court’s  
20 website; and,
- 21 - Persons other than an attorney, party, witness, or juror, interested in attending a criminal  
22 proceeding may seek permission to do so by submitting a “Request to Attend Court  
23 Hearing” form. (The request form can be found here: [Public Case and Hearings  
24 Information | Superior Court of California | County of Stanislaus.](#)) Upon  
25 approval by the judge, attendance will be permitted.  
26  
27  
28

1 When the CDC determines the Community Level is “medium” or “low”, no special  
 2 COVID-19 protocols are necessary.

3 Upon a change in Community Level from either “medium” or “low” to “high”, or vice  
 4 versa, the Court’s COVID-19 protocols will adjust accordingly without further Court order. To  
 5 provide adequate notice to Court users, the Court’s website and signs within court facilities will  
 6 prominently display the most current Community Level for Stanislaus County as determined by  
 7 the CDC.  
 8

9 Accordingly, the Court orders as follows:

- 10 1. General Order No. 2022-016 is revoked;
- 11 2. The following COVID-19 protocols will be effective immediately upon the CDC’s  
 12 determining the Community Level in Stanislaus County is “high”, “medium” or  
 13 “low”:  
 14

<u>COVID-19 Protocols</u>	<u>CDC COMMUNITY LEVEL</u>		
	<u>High</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Low</u>
Mask Required	Yes	No	No
Public Access Restricted - Only attorneys, parties, witnesses, and jurors allowed access; all non-confidential proceedings live-streamed on Court’s website.	Yes	No	No
Request to Attend Court Hearing -required for criminal proceedings for those not set forth above.	Yes	No	No


1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

3. This order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until amended or  
revoked by further order of the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: September 7, 2022



  
ROBERT B. WESTBROOK,  
PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE  
SUPERIOR COURT