

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT OF MISSOURI

UPDATED PHASE TWO ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Effective May 16, 2020, the Third Circuit moved from Phase 1 to Phase 2 and has been operating under Phase 2 since that date.

Pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court's Operational Directives adopted May 4, 2020, the Court enters the following Orders:

- a. Members of the public who are not involved in a court proceeding will not be allowed in the courtroom unless approved by the Judge presiding over the proceedings.
- b. Social distancing protocols to be followed by staff, attorneys, parties and witnesses.
- c. Individuals who have been recently exposed to or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed in the courtroom.
- d. The use of masks or face coverings by attorneys, parties, witnesses, victims, and courtroom staff is permissible, but not required.
- e. Judges and court staff are to consider utilizing available technologies – including teleconferencing and video conferencing – whenever practical, to limit in-person courtroom appearances to the extent practicable and not prohibited by constitutional or statutory provisions.
- f. Appropriate levels of screening at court facilities, to mitigate against individuals experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 from entering the courtroom, shall be determined by the Judge presiding over the proceedings.
- g. Grand and petit jury proceedings will be held only in extraordinary, pressing and urgent cases where they can be conducted in compliance with social distancing protocols and occupancy rate limitations. For further information, see the “Procedures for Jury Proceedings During COVID-19 Pandemic” adopted June 5, 2020 by the Missouri Supreme Court.
- h. Occupancy rates shall be limited to be 25 or less whenever possible.

The Third Circuit, including Municipal Divisions, will remain in Operating Phase 2 until, based upon reevaluation of the Gateway Criteria, the 3rd Circuit is ready to progress to the next Operating Phase, or return to a lower phase.

So Ordered this 9th day of July, 2020



Thomas R. Alley, Presiding Judge