



Supreme Court
State of Georgia
NATHAN DEAL JUDICIAL CENTER
Atlanta 30334

Posted: June 8, 2021

REVISED IN-PERSON ORAL ARGUMENT GUIDELINES

The Supreme Court of Georgia is resuming in-person oral arguments. In order to comply with health directives necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Court on May 11 made adjustments to entry into the courthouse and the courtroom to ensure the safety of the participants, visitors, the Justices, and Court employees, and noted the guidelines are subject to revision at any time. Due to the widespread availability of the COVID-19 vaccine and the recent revisions to guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding people who are fully vaccinated, the entry requirements are revised.

Arrival, Security Screening

- Pursuant to CDC guidelines, **fully vaccinated** visitors to the Nathan Deal Judicial Center are not required to wear a mask. **Unvaccinated** people (individuals who have not completed a vaccination series) must wear a mask covering the mouth **and** nose while in the building, including the courtroom, and when interacting with others. Any person who enters the building without a mask is certifying that he or she is fully vaccinated
- All visitors will be subject to automated temperature screening upon entrance into the building. Any visitor having a temperature of 100.4 or above will not be admitted.
- Any person who enters the building is certifying that he or she is free of COVID-19 symptoms and known exposure that poses a significant threat of infection.

Sixth Floor Courtroom

- Attendees shall be informed at the start of the courtroom proceeding that those who have been fully vaccinated may remove their face coverings, leaving to attendees to provide for their own compliance.
- Based on the evolving COVID-19 circumstances, the Court continues to encourage co-counsel (other than counsel presenting argument), parties, interested persons, and the media to consider viewing oral arguments remotely via the Court's simultaneous livestream available on days oral argument is heard at www.gasupreme.us. The oral argument sessions are also recorded and posted on the Court's website at <https://www.gasupreme.us/watch/>.

Counsel Instructions

- Counsel who are experiencing symptoms including fever, cough, and shortness of breath, chills, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or muscle pain the day of oral argument should stay home and immediately contact the Clerk's office to reschedule the in-person argument.
- Once through security, counsel will proceed to the sixth floor courtroom to check-in with the Clerk. You will be notified of any additional instructions related to your check-in after confirming your intention to appear.
- A maximum of two attorneys are permitted at counsel table.
- Bottled water and hand sanitizer will be available at the table.
- Each counsel orally arguing and wearing a face mask may remove their face mask at the podium while arguing and shall put the mask back on when they have completed the argument.
- Counsel are asked to wipe the microphone and top surface of the podium at the end of their argument with the wipes that will be placed on the podium.

Preventative Protocols:

- Common areas such as lobbies, elevators and washrooms will be cleaned and disinfected frequently by the Georgia Building Authority.
- The building's state-of-the-art ventilation system includes UV lighting to reduce toxins and bacteria that can enter the air stream.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for use throughout the building, including outside the courtroom.

Questions:

If you have any questions about this policy, please contact the Clerk's office at (404) 656-3470.