

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #141 ON ENTRY PROTOCOLS
IN MIDDLE DISTRICT BANKRUPTCY COURT FACILITIES**

WHEREAS the Court issued Administrative Order #138 on Reopening Protocols on July 2, 2020, the pandemic situation has changed dramatically in the subsequent months, with vaccinations now available to greater and lesser degrees throughout the United States. The intent of this Administrative Order is to update our Entry Protocols in all Middle District of Georgia Bankruptcy Court Facilities, as well as to ensure alignment with the newly issued Middle District of Georgia Standing Order 2021-04 on COVID-19 Entrance Requirements.

IT IS ORDERED that Amended Administrative Order #138 remain in effect as to all requirements except those related to facility entrance and face covering (mask) requirements; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that in order to protect public health, including the health of court staff, parties, court participants, and all other building occupants, the following persons shall not enter any U. S. Bankruptcy court facility in the Middle District of Georgia without prior permission from the Chief Bankruptcy Judge or his designee:

a. Persons who have been diagnosed with, or had close contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last fourteen (14) days; or

b. Persons who have been asked to self-quarantine by any healthcare provider or state or local health authority within the last fourteen (14) days; or

c. Fully vaccinated persons who have been exposed to COVID-19 and are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19; or

d. Unvaccinated persons who have been exposed to COVID-19 within the previous fourteen days (14); or

Administrative Order #141 on Entry Protocols in Middle District of Georgia Bankruptcy Facilities

e. Persons with any symptom of COVID-19 identified by the CDC, including fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Court proceedings are open to the public subject to social distancing requirements and the above health-related entrance criteria. The following procedures govern the use of masks or other face coverings:

a. Masks or other face coverings that cover the mouth and nose must be worn by all persons in all public areas of U. S. Bankruptcy Court facilities in the Middle District of Georgia. Masks will be provided to entrants if necessary.

b. Masks or other face coverings must be content neutral and may not express any offensive or inappropriate content. Masks will be provided if necessary.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that anyone denied entry due to these precautions, or anyone with a documented health condition that prevents the wearing of a mask or other face covering will be provided with contact information to contact the relevant court or Courtroom Deputy with whom they have business.

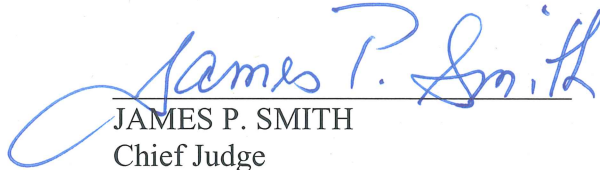
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the United States Marshal, his Deputies, and Court Security Officers shall deny entry to anyone attempting to enter in violation of this Order, and shall have the authority to remove anyone from a U. S. Bankruptcy court facility in the Middle District of Georgia for failure to abide by this Order while in our facilities.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Court Staff and all persons attending in-person court proceedings will comply with the Clerk's Office document "Facility Entry Protocols During COVID-19 Pandemic," and any amendments thereto, which can be found on the Court's website by clicking on the link to "Important Information Regarding Court Operations During COVID-19

Administrative Order #141 on Entry Protocols in Middle District of Georgia Bankruptcy Facilities

Outbreak.” The protocols established by the Clerk’s Office are incorporated by reference to this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 25 day of March, 2021.


JAMES P. SMITH
Chief Judge
United States Bankruptcy Court