

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
REGARDING FACE MASKS AND OTHER HEALTH MEASURES**

WHEREAS, The *Fifth Amended Administrative Order Expanding Statewide Judiciary Operations in Light of the COVID-19 Emergency*, filed on March 1, 2022, provides for the return to Phase V, full court operations, effective March 7, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (the “CDC”) have issued revised protocols on February 25, 2022 regarding the wearing of masks and many local jurisdictions, including Baltimore County, have emerged from health mandates related to the surge in COVID-19 infections due to the Omicron variant; and

WHEREAS, The *Fifth Amended Administrative Order* provides that no person who has been diagnosed with and remains ill with COVID-19, or who has not been fully vaccinated and is aware of having been exposed to a person infected with COVID-19, or who has been advised by a doctor, hospital, or local health department to self-quarantine or ordered to quarantine may enter a Judicial Branch facility during their applicable quarantine period; and

WHEREAS, The *Fifth Amended Administrative Order* provides that the administrative judges of the Circuit Court and the District Court located in each County or Baltimore City shall determine together whether they will require social distancing or other health measures consistent with local conditions and pursuant to appropriate public health guidance and shall so advise the public and the members of the bar by way of administrative orders to be effective March 7, 2022; it is hereby

ORDERED, this 2nd day of March 2022, that the following health measures shall be implemented in the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore County, effective March 7, 2022:

- (a) Face masks shall no longer be required, but are optional, for judges, Judiciary personnel and any other persons entering courthouses and Judiciary facilities; and**
- (b) Each judge shall have discretion to manage courtroom seating and courtroom capacity as appropriate; and**
- (c) Health screenings, including the initial screening questionnaire and the no-contact temperature check, shall be discontinued.**

/s/ Dorothy J. Wilson
Dorothy J. Wilson
Administrative Judge
District Court of Maryland for Baltimore County