

**Procedures Governing Oral Argument
Before Division I
September 19-23, 2022**

Admission to the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse

At the current time, the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse is open to the public. Masks are optional in all public areas of the Courthouse, such as lobbies and elevators. Visitors must take a temperature check before entry. Visitors should not enter the Courthouse if they have COVID-19 symptoms. Visitors who have been exposed to COVID-19 within the past 10 days should wear a high-quality mask.

Entrance Requirements for Presenting Oral Argument in Division I

There are no requirements regarding proof of vaccination or COVID-19 testing in place for Division I. Should counsel develop symptoms or test positive prior to argument, they should contact the clerk's office for directions. Counsel are not required to wear masks in Division I unless they have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 10 days.

Check-in for Oral Argument for Division I

Counsel should report directly to Division I on the 28th Floor for pre-argument check-in. A deputy clerk will be stationed inside the court room to complete your check-in for oral argument. Please be prepared to provide the deputy clerk with information regarding dividing time between opening and rebuttal if you are appellant and your desired time for a warning light if you are appellee. Counsel splitting oral argument time should be prepared to provide this information to the deputy clerk. If you are unfamiliar with the court's timing lights or court room procedures, please contact the clerk's office prior to the date of oral argument for additional information and assistance.

All clerk's office staff have been fully vaccinated and will be masked.

Court room Seating in Division I

The court asks that attendees observe social distancing while in the court room. There are no other restrictions or requirements. The court room is open to the public. Unless an attendee has been exposed to COVID-19 within the last 10 days, a mask is not required in Division I.

Remote Public and Press Access

Parties, interested members of the public, and the press may access a live audio stream of the arguments through a teleconference bridge. Information on accessing the live audio stream is provided on the court's website at www.ca8.uscourts.gov under "News and Announcements." The court also provides digital audio recordings of all arguments under the "Oral Arguments" tab on its website. These recordings are posted shortly after completion of the day's session.

Presentation of Oral Argument in Division I

When presenting oral argument, please remove your face mask if you are wearing one. The court room deputy clerk will clean the court room tables and lectern between arguments and will provide a fresh microphone cover for each attorney presenting argument. The court will not provide water at counsel tables, but you are permitted to bring your own water bottle. Wipes and hand sanitizer dispensers are provided at counsel table.

Other Matters

These procedures cannot cover every possible situation which might arise during the court session. We ask that you cooperate with any directions you receive from the Court Security Officers or Eighth Circuit staff. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact the Eighth Circuit Clerk and his staff.

Please note that the procedures outlined in this notice may change as a result of changes in community spread of COVID-19, additional guidance from the CDC, or directives from federal, state, and local governments. We will notify you of any changes regarding the procedures for the September, 2022 oral arguments.