

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**GENERAL ORDER NO. 21-17
December 20, 2021**

To combat the spread of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), given the severity of risks posed to the public, Court staff, and other Court agencies, the undersigned Chief Judge issued **General Order No. 21-15**, effective on November 1, 2021, ordering all individuals seeking entry to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours before entry. The undersigned Chief Judge further ordered that the Court would provide a rapid test to be self-administered prior to entry to those needing to enter the courthouse who did not have the required credentials. General Order No. 21-15 was posted on the Court's public website and disseminated to all attorneys registered with the Court's CM-ECF electronic case filing system.

Approximately six weeks have elapsed since the proof of vaccination or negative PCR test taken within 72 hours before entry requirement was implemented. During this time, jury trials and in-person proceedings have been conducted in this Courthouse. There have been instances when attorneys practicing before the Court, their employees, and witnesses subpoenaed or otherwise instructed by attorneys to appear at the courthouse have entered without the proper credentials outlined above and have necessitated that the Court supply, at Court expense, a rapid test to be self-administered prior to entry.

Attorneys admitted to and allowed to practice before the Court are Officers of the Court and, as such, are required to comply with the Court's orders. Attorneys practicing before the Court also have a duty to ensure that their employees as well as witnesses they have subpoenaed or otherwise instructed to appear comply with Court's Orders.

Accordingly, **General Order No. 21-15**, attached as Exhibit A, is hereby **AMENDED** effective December 20, 2021, as follows:

All individuals seeking entry to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana (including District Judges' chambers and courtrooms, Magistrate Judges' chambers and courtrooms, the Clerk's Office, the U.S. Probation Office, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court) must provide proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test within 72 hours before entry. If anyone needing to enter the courthouse does not have the required credentials, the Court will provide a rapid test to be self-administered prior to entry subject to the following paragraph.

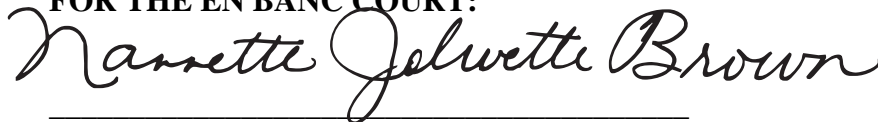
Attorneys admitted to practice before this Court, as well as their employees and witnesses, must provide proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours before entry. Attorneys who fail to comply with this Order and/or fail to ensure that their employees and witnesses comply with this Order may be sanctioned by the Court, including, but not limited to, being ordered to reimburse the Court the cost of the rapid test plus an administrative fee, totaling \$200.00 per instance.

The mask mandate and COVID-19 screening requirements, applicable to the entire Hale Boggs Federal Building, remain in effect for the United States District Court.¹

IT IS ORDERED.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 20th day of December, 2021.

FOR THE EN BANC COURT:



**NANNETTE JOLIVETTE BROWN
CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

¹ See COVID-19 General Order 21-10 dated July 29, 2021 and Amended COVID-19 General Order 20-01 dated September 27, 2020.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**GENERAL ORDER NO. 21-15
October 22, 2021**

To combat the spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), given the severity of risks posed to the public, Court staff, and other Court agencies, the undersigned as Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana hereby orders as follows, effective November 1, 2021:

All individuals seeking entry to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana (including District Judges' chambers and courtrooms, Magistrate Judges' chambers and courtrooms, the Clerk's Office, the U.S. Probation Office, and the Bankruptcy Court) must provide proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours before entry. If anyone needing to enter the courthouse does not have the required credentials, the Court will provide a rapid test to be self-administered prior to entry. The mask mandate and COVID-19 screening requirements, applicable to the entire Hale Boggs Federal Building, remain in effect for the United States District Court.¹

IT IS ORDERED.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 22nd day of October, 2021.



**NANNETTE JOLIVETTE BROWN
CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

¹ See COVID-19 General Order 21-10 dated July 29, 2021 and Amended COVID-19 General Order 20-01 dated September 27, 2020.