

From: [Chief Justice John D. Minton, Jr.](#)
To: [Chief Justice John D. Minton, Jr.](#)
Subject: Update From Chief Justice Minton 3-9-21: COVID-19 Health and Safety Measures Still in Place as Vaccine Distribution Continues
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Update for March 9, 2021

Justices, Judges, Circuit Court Clerks and Kentucky Court of Justice Personnel:

COVID-19 Health and Safety Measures Still in Place as Vaccine Distribution Continues

I am encouraged by the number of court personnel who are being vaccinated at sites around the state and by the strong turnout for the KCOJ Vaccination Clinic in Frankfort this week. Thank you for making this effort to protect yourself, your family and the public we serve.

With COVID-19 vaccines from Moderna, Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson being administered across the country, the Centers for Disease Control has released its first [Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People](#). The CDC defines individuals as fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the second dose in a two-dose series of Pfizer or Moderna or two weeks after receiving a single-dose of Johnson & Johnson.

Some of you have asked whether you are still required to wear masks and take other precautions after being fully vaccinated. For now, the answer is yes. The Kentucky Court of Justice Health and Safety Requirements listed in [Administrative Order 2021-06](#) and in the [KCOJ COVID-19 Health and Safety Requirements guide](#) are required in all court facilities and AOC offices until further notice.

That requirement is consistent with the [CDC's new guidelines](#). While the CDC has lifted some restrictions for those fully vaccinated, it recommends that we continue to wear masks, practice social distancing and follow other prevention measures to protect those who have not yet been vaccinated.

I know you must be as relieved as I am that many indicators are pointing in the right direction. However, it may be several more months before we can return to something resembling normal. The KCOJ is committed to the safety of all people who come into our facilities and we must remain vigilant as we begin to safely transition out of this pandemic.

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