


**THIRD AMENDED
COVID-19 MINIMUM STANDARD
HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR
COURTS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS**

The following Third Amended Minimum Standard Health Protocols shall be in effect immediately for Jefferson County, Texas, courts until further notice:

1. Judges may require surgical type face masks (or face shields) and social distancing for persons inside their courtroom and court offices and in spaces immediately outside of the courtroom and other areas specially utilized by the court, such as the jury impaneling room and courthouse annex auditorium.
2. Judges may require the use of disposable microphone covers in their courtroom and in areas specially utilized by the court, such as the jury impaneling room and courthouse annex auditorium.
3. Judges may begin to conduct jury selection in their courtrooms beginning January 1, 2022, and should require jurors to wear surgical type face masks or face shields during jury selection, the trial and deliberations.
4. Courtrooms shall be cleaned and disinfected regularly.
5. All persons shall, at least one working day before appearing in court, report to the court staff any diagnosis or symptoms of or exposure to COVID-19 occurring within fourteen days of appearing in court.
6. Judges may impose stricter health protocols for their court.
7. Judges may continue to conduct proceedings remotely.
8. Jury trials beginning before January 1, 2022, shall be coordinated to avoid the assembly of large groups of court participants and visitors inside the courtroom and court offices and in the spaces immediately outside of the courtrooms.

Date signed NOVEMBER 8, 2021



Randy Shelton,
Local Administrative District Judge