

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI

ADDENDUM TO PROTOCOLS FOR REOPENING  
COURTHOUSES AND RESUMING NORMAL OPERATIONS

**REVISED COVID-19 VACCINATION AND TESTING POLICY**

Effective September 27, 2021, in light of the recent surge of COVID-19 cases in Mississippi, particularly Delta variant cases, and Mississippi's status as an area of high or substantial transmission for COVID-19, consistent with the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force's COVID-19 Model Workplace Safety Principles, recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and guidance from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts:

1. All employees and on-site contractors must provide proof of vaccination against COVID-19 or be tested twice weekly for COVID-19.
2. Any employee or on-site contractor who fails to provide proof of vaccination against COVID-19 or proof of a negative COVID-19 test result will not be permitted to enter Northern District Court buildings or Northern District Court events.
3. Employees and on-site contractors who fail to provide proof of vaccination or who decline to provide their vaccination status will be considered unvaccinated.
4. On Monday and Thursday of each week, unvaccinated employees and unvaccinated on-site contractors must provide proof that they have been tested for COVID-19 within the prior three days.<sup>1</sup> Proof of COVID-19 test results must be provided to an appropriate supervisor or other

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<sup>1</sup> If entering the building on a day other than Monday or Thursday, proof of a negative test result within the prior three days must be provided. If proof of a negative test taken on a Monday is provided the day it is taken, proof of a subsequently taken negative test must be provided the following Thursday.

designated person and may be submitted electronically. Test results from home-test or self-test kits are not acceptable unless indicated otherwise.

5. Visitors who are not fully vaccinated or decline to provide their vaccination status must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test from no later than the three previous days prior to entering a Northern District Court building. This requirement does not apply to members of the public entering a Northern District Court building to obtain or provide a public service or benefit. Visitors who are attorneys, case participants, or witnesses entering a Northern District Court building for in-person scheduled court proceedings should contact the chambers of the presiding judge beforehand regarding application of this requirement.

6. This policy is revised and effective as of March 1, 2022. It may be further revised and shall remain in place until further notice.