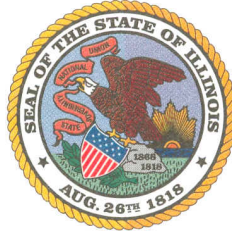


STATE OF ILLINOIS  
CIRCUIT COURT  
SEVENTENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

EUGENE G. DOHERTY  
Chief Judge



WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
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May 14, 2021

**For Immediate Release**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**MASKS STILL REQUIRED IN 17<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT BUILDINGS**

**ROCKFORD, IL** – Noting a recent change in CDC guidance, Chief Judge Eugene Doherty said today that an order from the Illinois Supreme Court requires that masks be worn in courthouse buildings.

“The Supreme Court’s order is based on earlier public health recommendations,” Doherty explained. “It would not be surprising if the Supreme Court re-examined its order in light of the CDC update given on Thursday, but as for now the order is still in effect and we are required to follow it.”

Masks are currently required for all persons on courthouse premises, including litigants, attorneys, and jurors. Chief Judge Doherty indicated that the Circuit will be prepared to change practices if the current Supreme Court order is amended.

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