

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED
08/26/2021
Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC

No. ADM2020-00428

**SEPARATE CONCURRING/DISSENTING ORDER RE: FACIAL COVERINGS
AND ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF CONDUCTING BUSINESS**

I concur in the Court's Covid-19 Order except for the section that strongly encourages, but does not require, facial coverings in courtrooms. In my view, the Court should continue to follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The most recent update from the CDC on August 13, 2021, advised that people in areas of substantial and high-risk transmission, which includes every county in Tennessee, should wear facial coverings in indoor public places. Thus, to protect the health and safety of people entering a courthouse for court-related business, the Court should require facial coverings until the CDC changes its mask guidelines.



Sharon G. Lee, Justice