

Updated 2DCA Protocols for In-Person Oral Argument

Access to the courtroom will be limited to the Justices, essential court staff, and counsel in the cases scheduled. Due to concerns for the health and safety of the public and court employees, the courtroom will not be open to the public.

The court will provide a live video feed of the oral arguments. The live audio feed will be available on the Second District Court of Appeal's calendar page on the court's website <https://www.courts.ca.gov/11603.htm>.

Following are the court's guidelines for counsel presenting oral argument:

- Only arguing counsel and no more than one attorney sitting second chair are permitted access to the courtroom.
- Regardless of vaccination status, all counsel and co-counsel must wear masks and observe physical distancing while on the premises. Counsel and co-counsel must use only N-95, KN-95, or KF-94 masks within the courtroom. Masks may be removed when counsel is presenting argument.

Regardless of vaccination status, no counsel may enter the courtroom if they:

- Tested positive for COVID-19 within the previous 14 days,
- Are currently awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test,
- Have been directed to either isolate or self-quarantine by any physician, hospital, or health agency,
- Have had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days, such as a temperature in excess of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, unusual fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea,
- Have traveled internationally within the previous 7 days, or
- Within the previous 14 days, have had known close contact (as defined by guidance provided by the CDC) with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Notification of Potential Exposure

In the event that counsel or co-counsel show symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 within five days after being present at the Second District Court of Appeal, counsel must call the Clerk's Office at 213-830-7000.

These guidelines will be subject to modification as circumstances change. Court leaders will continue to closely monitor public health guidelines in deciding how future oral arguments will proceed.