

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

COURT OPERATIONS AND ACCESS DURING
COVID-19 PANDEMIC

GENERAL ORDER NO. 159

VISITOR RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, the Court continues to evaluate its response to the spread of COVID-19 and recognizes the need to assist in the preservation of public safety and health while effectively administering justice during this period of national emergency;

WHEREAS, General Order 155, dated March 1, 2022, provides, among other things, that court security staff or the United States Marshals Service shall inquire of all persons seeking entry to any courthouse whether they meet any of the therein listed criteria for restricting visitors, and if so, deny their entry, and that all visitors entering any courthouse must submit to a temperature scan to detect a fever and court security staff or the United States Marshals Service may deny entry to any person who registers a fever or who refuses to submit to such temperature scan;

WHEREAS, the Court has determined that active screening of individuals seeking entry to courthouses by court security staff or the United States Marshals Service for COVID-19 risk factors can be effectively replaced by passive screening and has further been advised by its consulting expert epidemiologist that temperature scanning is not a reliable method of screening for COVID-19 contagiousness;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that General Order 155 is amended in the following respects, but all other currently applicable provisions set forth therein remain in full force and effect:

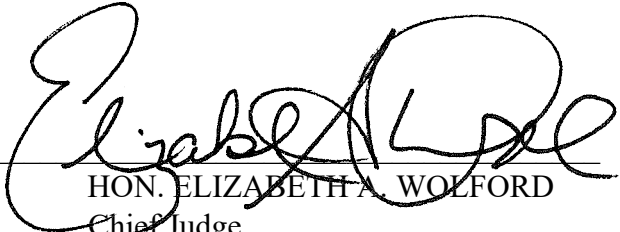
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the provision of General Order 155 requiring that court security staff or the United States Marshals Service shall inquire of any person seeking entry to

any courthouse whether they meet any of the therein listed criteria for restricting visitors is hereby amended to provide that such inquiry “may” be made but it shall not be required;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the provision of General Order 155 requiring that all visitors entering any courthouse must submit to a temperature scan to detect a fever is hereby vacated.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: July 29, 2022
Rochester, New York



HON. ELIZABETH A. WOLFORD
Chief Judge
United States District Court