

MAR 26 2021

**TERRI HOLLINGSWORTH
CIRCUIT COUNTY CLERK****IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS****ORDER NO. 2021-71****IN THE MATTER OF PULASKI COUNTY'S
CONTINUING RESPONSE TO COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

EXECUTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, an Executive Order was entered restricting public access to the Pulaski County Administration Building, Courthouse, Regional Building (Bale Building), Prosecutor's Office, and District Court/Juvenile Justice Complex.

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, an Executive Order was entered directing the operations and conduct of departments of Pulaski County reporting to the office of County Judge, and strongly encouraging the adoption of those protective measures by other elected officials supervising the operation of county departments and personnel.

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, an Executive Order was entered consolidating the two (2) Executive Orders and extending the County's response to the public health emergency through April 17, 2020. The consolidated Order was extended on April 17, 2020 through May 3, 2020.

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2020, the April 17, 2020 Executive Order was extended apply through May 17, 2020 and required the additional precautions that all persons entering the identified Pulaski County facilities wear protective masks and to have a temperature of less than 100.4° F.

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2020, the April 30, 2020 Executive Order was amended and extended. The amendment required all supervisors of personnel paid by Pulaski County to verify employee productivity, returning personnel unable to work from home or unproductive in their work from home to their office or duty station, while also maintaining required social distancing, temperature taking, and the wearing of facemask. If the required distancing could not be accomplished in the available space, supervisors were responsible to implement modified staffing schedules, including mandatory rolling furloughs as necessary. Extensions of the Order were entered extending the effective date through February 28, 2021.

WHEREAS, the pandemic novel virus COVID-19 has continued its spread across the nation, including Arkansas and Pulaski County.

WHEREAS, vaccine distribution continues in Pulaski County and across our State; however, in Pulaski County fewer than thirty percent (30%) of our population has received at

least one (1) dose, and approximately twelve percent (12%) are fully vaccinated. All eligible vaccine recipients are strongly encouraged to receive a vaccine at the first opportunity.

WHEREAS, our rolling seven (7) day average of new cases continues to decline, and optimism is warranted; however, until vaccine numbers increase, we must remain vigilant. Mandatory social distancing and the wearing of facemasks are necessary and required to protect the health of the public and county employees and personnel in County facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barry Hyde, as Pulaski County Judge, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Arkansas Constitution and laws of the State of Arkansas, as chief executive of Pulaski County, promulgate the following Executive Order in continued response to the pandemic novel virus COVID-19, effective upon filing:

The July 2, 2020 Executive Order, and all preceding Orders as amended, and the declared state of emergency shall continue in effect through May 2, 2021.

The following is a reiteration of guidance provided previously:

The Pulaski County Administration Building, Courthouse, Regional Building, Prosecutor's Office, and District Court/Juvenile Justice Complex remain in operation with access restricted to personnel assigned to or conducting business in each building. Members of the public who are receiving essential services and cannot communicate digitally, by phone, email, online or video conference or for whom such digital access is infeasible will be permitted access on request of the Court or County Officer to building security. Where possible, advance notice or special requests for access should be communicated to the Pulaski County Comptroller.

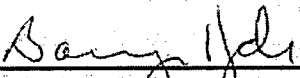
When permitted by the Arkansas Supreme Court, Pulaski County is prepared to provide alternative space in which the Courts may conduct jury selection and jury trials. Requests for scheduling of alternative space should begin as soon as possible, so that accommodations may be made and schedules coordinated with venue owners. Courts should contact the Pulaski County Comptroller to request alternative space for jury selection and jury trials.

County services and county-supported services remain available to the public. The manner of delivery of those services, by the respective officers and employees, shall be accomplished in a manner that limits public exposure to county personnel and facilities to the necessary minimum. Pulaski County continues to encourage the public and county-paid personnel to conduct all business with or between the County and Courts digitally, by phone, email, online or video conference, and only if such digitally-conducted businesses is impossible or infeasible should it be conducted in-person. Prior to entry, all persons are subject to temperature checks and will be refused entry if their temperature is 100.4° F or higher.

Social distancing is mandatory in all environments. There shall be no congregations of people in county facilities, unless necessary to conduct essential functions, and there shall be no congregations of ten (10) or more people outside or in unconfined spaces on any County

property. All persons entering or present in the identified county facilities, without exception, are required to wear masks, and only employees may remove their masks once alone, in their assigned office, behind a closed door. All county-paid personnel are required to exercise heightened care in personal hygiene, including, but not limited to, frequent handwashing and use of sanitizer.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



**BARRY HYDE, PULASKI COUNTY
JUDGE/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**