IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

IN RE:

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY THE OUTBREAK OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING ENTRANCE PROTOCOLS

In response to an increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 throughout the United States, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") advises that precautions be taken to reduce the spread of the disease. One of the precautions suggested by the CDC is that when individuals travel to communities with "high" levels of COVID-19 transmission, they should wear face masks while in indoor public spaces. Jackson County has been designated as an area with a high level of COVID-19 transmission.

Therefore, in order to promote public health and to protect the health of employees and visitors to the courthouses in this District, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. Employees and other members of the Court staff shall wear a mask or face covering when in the common or public areas of the courthouse. Masks or coverings need not be worn in private work areas provided there is sufficient physical distancing from others.

2. Visitors to the courthouse, including vendors, contractors, litigants, attorneys, and other members of the public, shall be required to wear a mask or face covering when in the common or public areas of the courthouse.

3. Any person seeking entry to the courthouse without a mask or face covering shall be delayed by the Court Security Officers. A mask or face covering shall be provided by the Court and, if no mask is available, the visitor will be asked to contact the office to be visited and determine whether alternate arrangements may be made to accomplish the business needs of the visitor without entry to the Courthouse

4. This Order shall remain in effect until amended or vacated by the undersigned.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

<u>/s/ Beth Phillips</u> BETH PHILLIPS, CHIEF JUDGE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DATE: June 24, 2022