

EXPOSURE CONTROL POLICY

Objective

To protect Court officials and employees from being exposed to health threatening conditions and, therefore, reducing the chance of exposing colleagues and members of the public.

Scope of Policy

The 14th Judicial District has established this policy for all court employees who have been exposed to an Aerosol Transmissible Disease (“ATD”) or Aerosol Transmissible Pathogen (“ATP”). Diseases and pathogens which are to be considered aerosol transmissible pathogens or diseases can include, but are not limited to, COVID-19 and other coronaviruses, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Tuberculosis, Varicella, Influenza, Meningitis, Pertussis, and other acute respiratory syndromes.

Please note that this can include any other disease for which public health guidelines recommend airborne infection isolation.

Procedures

Any employee who believes they have been exposed to an ATR/ ATD must report the potential exposure to their supervisor or Department Head/Judge immediately. Upon report of the incident, the supervisor or Department Head/Judge will provide Court Administration with details of the potential exposure. Reported incidents will be responded to on a case-by-case basis.

Employees who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are required to stay home and not come to work until they are free of fever (100.4° F) or greater using an oral thermometer, signs of a fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g., acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, Dayquil, cough suppressants, etc.). Signs and symptoms generally include combinations of the following: coughing, sneezing, and other respiratory symptoms, fever, sweating, chills, muscle aches, weakness, and malaise.

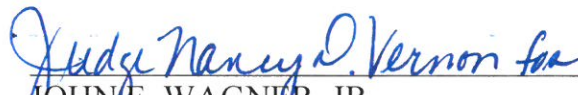
The Court reserves the right to require self-isolation of an employee in appropriate circumstances (e.g., travel to a foreign country), even absent outward symptoms of an ATD or ATP.

The Center for Disease Control recommends that employees who appear to have acute respiratory illness symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath) upon arrival to work or become sick during the day should be separated from other employees and be sent home immediately. Work areas should be thoroughly cleaned with an EPA approved disinfectant on a routine basis. Areas to consider are workstations, phones, fax machines, copiers, break rooms and other common objects or areas.

Employees may be asked to work remotely for a period of time after being exposed. This period will be in accordance with federal, state, and/ or local health guidelines. The 14th Judicial District will adhere to the guidance of the public health authorities.

Employees may be required to provide a medical note releasing them to return to work.

Public health action may take place and this can include active monitoring or supervision of self-monitoring by public health authorizes, or the application of movement restrictions, including isolation and quarantine, when needed to prevent the possible spread of illness.

 P.J.
JOHN F. WAGNER, JR.,
PRESIDENT JUDGE BY DESIGNEE
NANCY D. VERNON, JUDGE

Effective Date:
March 16, 2020