

**JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**



OFFICE OF THE TRIBAL COURT  
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**CHIEF JUDGE OF THE SALISH KOOTENAI TRIBAL COURT  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
22-01**

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The CSKT Tribal Court is issuing its first Administrative Order of 2022 in light of the COVID Safety Protocols enacted by the CSKT Tribal Council.

On March 15, 2022, the CSKT Tribal Council issued an update on COVID Safety Protocols effective March 21, 2022.

The CSKT Tribal Council passed Resolution 21-066 on May 4, 2021 and issued accompanying COVID Safety Protocols on May 17, 2021 reflecting the CDC guidance issued on May 13, 2021.

In response, the Tribal Court issued an updated Administrative Order on July 13, 2021 addressing the Court's operations during that time period.

The Tribal Council recently made changes to the COVID Protocols for CSKT Government owned buildings on March 7, 2022 based on CDC monitoring of COVID transmission levels that demonstrated that Lake County's classification was recently updated to a low risk level.

The Tribal Court is committed to the health and safety of the public and its staff as it provides essential services and maintains the rule of law. Considering the new guidance from the CSKT Tribal Council, public health authorities, the availability of effective vaccines and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the foregoing update on Tribal Court operations shall be issued:

**IT IS ORDERED** that all prior COVID-19 orders directed by the Chief Judges since the declaration of this public health emergency shall be substituted with this Administrative Order:

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that starting **April 11, 2022, masks will no longer be required in the courthouse.** Anyone who has not been fully vaccinated is encouraged to wear a mask in the courthouse. Masks and hand sanitizer shall be available in the courthouse at all times.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that **social distancing** is no longer required, although social distancing is encouraged for those who are not fully vaccinated.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Tribal Court will not accept e-filings, at this time, and shall only accept filings by mail or in-person subject to the exception for the Tribal Defenders' and Tribal Prosecutors' offices where they may submit by email to the presiding clerk Advise of Rights, Plea Agreements and Orders if submitted on the same day of court (on Mondays and Wednesdays);

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Tribal Court shall conduct hearings in person;

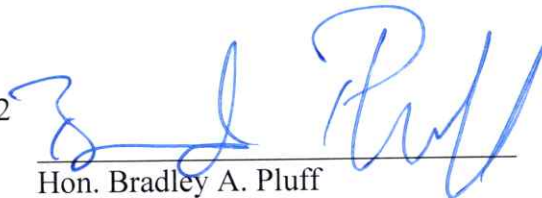
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Tribal Court shall continue to have inmates appear by videoconference for their initial appearances and arraignments;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Tribal Court shall provide masks and hand sanitizer to protect the public when large groups are gathered in the courthouse and/or courtroom;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Order shall remain in effect until amended or withdrawn.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 28 day of March 2022



Hon. Bradley A. Pluff  
Acting Chief Judge

