



UNITED STATES TAX COURT

Washington, D.C. 20217

October 5, 2021

PRESS RELEASE

On August 27, 2021, the Court announced that, in its Winter 2022 Term, the Court expects to begin conducting in-person proceedings. A limited number of in-person special sessions have been scheduled. To provide guidance with respect to in-person proceedings, the Court has posted a new publication, [Court Standards and Protocols to Protect Public Health](#), to its COVID-19 Resources page. A summary of the Washington, D.C. courthouse protocols is attached to this press release.

The Court has also issued [Administrative Order 2021-02, Washington, D.C. Courthouse Access](#). The Administrative Order provides information specific to the Washington, D.C. courthouse for the purpose of observing in-person proceedings.

If you have any questions, contact the Public Affairs Office at (202) 521-3355.

United States Tax Court

Summary of Standards and Protocols

Applicable to Entry for Any Visitor to the Washington, D.C. Courthouse

Public Access for Scheduled In-Person Proceedings

In-person Court proceedings in Washington, D.C. are open to the public and press. Individuals are permitted courthouse entry, subject to the Court's COVID-19 protocols, on a first-come, first-served basis until the courtroom has reached physical distancing capacity. When courtroom capacity is reached, no additional visitors are admitted. Visitor access is restricted to designated areas in the Court. Members of the press are included in the definition of "visitor."

COVID-19 Vaccination or Negative Test Result

Upon arrival, visitors are required to show proof of full vaccination or a negative test result from a test taken within 72 hours. The Court will not handle, retain, or copy these documents.

Face Coverings

All visitors are responsible for providing their own properly fitting mask and wearing it at all times when in the courthouse. The presiding judge may exercise discretion and allow a testifying witness or examining counsel to remove their masks, under certain circumstances.

Contactless Check-in for Contact Tracing

To support contact tracing, the presiding judge may provide a QR code to trial participants in advance of the trial to allow registration of attendance. The QR code is also posted outside the courthouse and courtroom for all participants and visitors to access the registration form from a mobile device.

Court Visitor Health Screening

Before entering the courthouse, all visitors are asked to self-certify that the answer to each of the COVID-19 health screening questions is "no." Signage with the questions is located on the exterior of the courthouse near the entrance doors. If the answer to any of the screening questions is "yes," the visitor should not enter the courthouse.

All visitors are required to check their temperature upon arrival. A temperature check machine is located outside of the Court Security Office. If the visitor registers a temperature of 100.4° Fahrenheit or higher, the visitor should exit the courthouse.

Courtroom Procedures

Court visitors are required to maintain appropriate physical distancing. Signage and demarcations provide physical distancing directions for gallery seating.