COUNTY CLERK

FOR THE COUNTY OF WHATCOM AT COME POLICE

CASE NO. 20-2-00001-37

IN THE MATTER OF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH RISK DUE TO COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

TWENTY-THIRD ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER August 12, 2021

WHEREAS the COVID-19 virus and its variants continue to be prevalent in our community, and continue to pose a serious risk to the health of those infected.

WHEREAS the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recommend everyone, including those who are vaccinated, to wear masks in public indoor spaces, in areas with substantial or high risk of community transmission.

WHEREAS the CDC defines substantial risk of transmission as 7-day rolling average of daily case rates of 50-99.99 cases per 100,000 and/or test positivity rates between 5% and 9.99%. High risk is defined as 7-day rolling average of daily case rates of 100 or more cases per 100,000 and/or test positivity rates over 10%.

WHEREAS, Whatcom County is currently classified by the CDC as having a "High" risk of community transmission.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

In order to reduce the risk of virus exposure to those required to appear in Whatcom County Superior Court courtrooms, all those physically present in said courtrooms, whether vaccinated or not, shall wear an appropriate mask or face covering until further notice. An appropriate mask or face covering is one that covers the wearer's nose and mouth with fabric or filter material, preventing the circulation of air, particles and other discharges. In addition, those in the courtrooms are encouraged to continue appropriate social distancing, and to appear remotely whenever feasible.

DATED this 13th day of August, 2021.

ROBERT E. OLSON, Presiding Judge