

Martha L. Walters  
Chief Justice



**OREGON SUPREME COURT**

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September 7, 2021  
**(SENT BY EMAIL)**

Members of the Oregon State Bar

RE: Updated Social Distancing Requirements

Dear Bar Members:

As you know, Oregon continues to battle the spread of COVID-19, particularly in light of the highly contagious Delta variant. Today, I issued a new Chief Justice Order, [CJO 21-035](#), which re-imposes a social distancing requirement in our courts, as follows:

- Social distancing is required in all *public* areas of a court facility, unless the Presiding Judge determines that other sufficiently protective measures can be taken and directs that those measures be taken.
- A judge presiding over a proceeding may grant an exception to members of the same household attending the proceeding or to permit a lawyer and client to confer.

The social distancing requirement must be implemented as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, September 13, 2021.

I know that this renewed requirement will impact our court operations, but it is a step that the courts must take to protect all who enter our courthouses, their families, and our communities.

Thank you for your continued cooperation as we adjust to changing pandemic circumstances.

Sincerely,

Martha L. Walters  
Chief Justice

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