

FILED APR 11 2022

BY 

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE OSAGE NATION
PAWHUSKA, OKLAHOMA

In re:

Judicial Offices Reopening – Transition to
In-Person Hearings

Administrative Order No. AO-2022-03

The Chief Justice issues this administrative order to transition from pandemic-related measures to regular court operations.

Tribal courts across the United States have reopened their facilities to the public for purposes of conducting court business. The transition from remote to in-person hearings, however, requires several months of conducting already-scheduled remote hearings and scheduling new hearings in-person. Additionally, it is important to maintain ongoing measures to protect customer privacy and safety.

IT IS ORDERED, the following measures shall remain in place **beginning April 4, 2022**.

1. Court Facility

- a. The Court offices will be open to the general public to conduct court business.
- b. Masks are not required, and may be worn based on the individual's preference.
- c. The entrance shall continue to be at the door on the southwestern side of the building, which is already marked as a public entrance.
- d. The glass double doors on the east side of the building shall remain closed for public use.

2. Filing

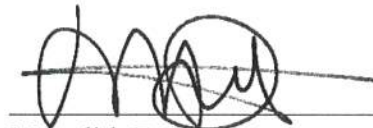
- a. Documents may be filed at the Court Clerk Service Window or via email per prior administrative orders.
- b. The court filing email link is for **filing court documents only** and must not be used to communicate with court personnel and judges.

3. Scheduled Hearings/Trials:

- a. Beginning July 5, 2022, all hearings will take place in person at the Osage Nation Courts at 1333 Grandview Ave., Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056.

- b. All hearings scheduled on or after July 5, 2022 must be conducted in-person unless the presiding judge authorizes one or more parties to appear remotely for good cause shown. Parties may request to appear remotely by filing a motion to appear remotely with the Court Clerk at least seven (7) days prior to the scheduled hearing.
 - c. Any hearings scheduled to be remote prior to July 5, 2022 shall continue to be held remotely.
4. The Court Administrator is authorized to close the court offices on an emergency basis upon a determination that a health risk exists and to take appropriate measures to secure the safety of the court staff and court patrons.
5. The following persons are not permitted to enter the Judicial Branch offices, including the court room: (1) Persons who have recently been diagnosed with or are currently experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, including a fever, cough, shortness of breath, or loss of sense of smell; (2) Persons who have had close contact in the last 14 days with any person who has been diagnosed within the last month with COVID-19; and (3) Persons who have been asked to self-quarantine by any doctor, hospital, or health agency.
- If a person is denied entry to the court for any of these reasons, they may contact their attorney, or contact the court clerk for more information.
6. This order supersedes and replaces AO-2022-01.

SO ORDERED: April 4, 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meredith D. Drent', is written over a horizontal line.

Meredith D. Drent
Chief Justice