



EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 23

By: Mayor Larry Waters

Declaration of Face Covering Requirement

Further Clarifications

EXEMPTION CLARIFICATION – The intent and spirit of Executive Order 23 is to ensure that the maximum number of residents, employees, and visitors within Sevier County who are older than twelve (12) years wear face coverings while indoors whenever they are within six (6) feet of any person other than a family member.

Individuals and businesses will have unique situations that they must use their best judgement in complying with the order. This judgement should be based on the stated intent and spirit of Executive Order 23.

Further clarifications on the exemptions include:

- When a person is alone or properly social distanced (or only with family or household members) in indoor spaces, there is no requirement to wear a mask.
- The exemption *While outdoors. Persons outdoors are encouraged to follow Tennessee Pledge and maintain social distancing* also refers to being outdoors in large crowds. If large crowds are present and social distancing a substantial amount of the time is not possible in this large crowd setting, masks are recommended to be worn and the Tennessee Pledge should be followed.
- The exemption *While participating in indoor athletic events or indoor exercising* includes indoor physical activities whether work or leisure related.
- The exemption *While working at location of employment under conditions where appropriate social distancing and/or protection from others (others is defined as outside of the person's household) is substantially maintained* is directed toward employees/owners of businesses while at their place of employment.
- The intent and spirit of the exemption *While working at location of employment under conditions where appropriate social distancing and/or protection from others (others is defined as outside of the person's household) is substantially maintained* is for employees (and customers) to wear face coverings while in public areas of a place of employment. Employees who substantially maintain social distancing and/or protection in private areas such as a private office, meeting rooms, and other locations not regularly accessed by the public within their place of employment would not be required to wear a face covering.
- Protection, as used in *While working at location of employment under conditions where appropriate social distancing and/or protection from others (others is defined as outside of the person's household) is substantially maintained* is defined as 1) physical protection such as barriers, and 2) other ways such as regular temperature and symptom checks of employees, etc.
- During public meetings, members of the public (non board members) who attend must wear facial coverings unless social distanced. Members of the board conducting the meeting are not required as long as they are social distanced from other board members and members of the public.
- The exemption *While in a house of worship unless required by that house of worship, but wearing a face covering in such locations is strongly encouraged (for more information on worship, we encourage churches to follow the Tennessee Pledge)* is directed toward established churches/places where regular worship services take place.

This order is to reiterate a best practice baseline for the use of masks for the health and safety of our residents, employees, and visitors. Further, these baseline practices are meant to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and ensure our local businesses will not endure additional restrictions or closures from the state. Businesses can certainly implement stricter guidelines per the order as they see fit.

SO CLARIFIED this 9th day of July 2020.



Honorable Larry Waters
Mayor, Sevier County