# ORDER APPROVING MODIFICATION OF OPERATIONAL PLAN IN MARATHON COUNTY

Pursuant to the Wisconsin Supreme Order dated May 21, 2021, and at the request of the Hon. Michael K. Moran, Presiding Judge in Marathon County, for modification of Marathon County's July 2, 2020 and February 15, 2021 Operational Plan as being in the best interest of the Circuit Court of Marathon County, it is herby ordered that the Operational Plan is modified.

Effective this

day of

. 2021

Hon. Greg Huber

Chief Judge, 9th Judicial District

## Michael K. Moran Judge

Phone: (715) 261-1381 Fax: (715) 261-1319

Pamela VanOoyen Judicial Coordinator

May 25, 2021



Amy Downs Reporter (715) 261-1341

Dear Chief Judge Greg Huber,

The Judges in Marathon County feel that it would it would be in the best interests of the Marathon County Circuit Courts that the Operational Plans signed on July 2, 2020 and February 15, 2021 be modified by the enclosed Order to conform with the Order of the Wisconsin Supreme Court issued on May 21, 2021. In Marathon County, the number of newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 has decreased significantly as the number of vaccinated individuals has increased both in Marathon County and throughout Wisconsin, and the United States Center for Disease Controls declared on May 16, 2021, that "[f]ully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing,". The proposed Order continues to emphasize the need for everyone to remain safe in the Marathon County Courts and recognizes that due to the availability of vaccines and continued encouragement of social distancing, our courts can return to in person appearances, including jury trials, while still utilizing remote access when necessary upon approval of the Courts. All of the Judges in Marathon County agree that the proposed modifications are necessary and in the best interests of the Marathon County Courts.

It is therefore in the best interest of our Courts that the modified Operational Plan be approved at this time.

Sincerely,

Michael K. Moran Presiding Judge

Marathon County, Wisconsin

Michael K. Mon

STATE OF

WISCONSIN

9th JUDICIAL

**DISTRICT** 

MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

### THE ATTACHED

COVID-19 CIRCUIT COURT SAFETY PLAN FOR MARATHON COUNTYDATED JULY 2, 2020,

WHEN COMBINED WITH THE ATTACHED

COVID-19 CIRCUIT COURT OPERATING PLAN FOR MARATHON

COUNTYADDENDUM: JURY TRIAL PLAN

DATED FEBRUARY 15, 2021,

ADDENDUM: MODIFIED SAFETY PLAN

DATED MAY 24, 2021

CONSTITUTE THE

OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR THE SAFE RESUMPTION OF IN PERSON
PROCEEDINGS AND JURY TRIALS IN MARATHON COUNTY
STATE OF WISCONSIN

# COVID-19 Circuit Court Operating Plan for Marathon County Addendum: Resumption of In Court Proceedings and Modification of Covid-19 Safety Rules

As an addendum to the Safety Plan filed with the Chief Judge of the Judicial District on July 2, 2020 and addendum dated February 15, 2021, this plan is developed to ensure the health and safety of jurors, litigants, attorneys, visitors, court staff, judges, and other individuals participating in court appearances and jury trials. The courts of Marathon County will implement the following modified protective measures related to the return to in person court and amendment of Covid-19 safety rules:

# Amendment to the July 2, 2020 and February 15, 2021 Orders

- 1. WHEREAS the number of newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 has decreased significantly as the number of vaccinated individuals has increased in Wisconsin, and the United States Center for Disease Controls declared on May 16, 2021, that "[f]ully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing," thereby causing the Court to re-examine the restrictions that the Court has placed on court proceedings due to the pandemic.
- 2. The Marathon County Safety Order dated July 2, 2020 and Amended February 15, 2021 are hereby replaced as follows:
  - a. The requirement that all individuals maintain social distancing while in the courtroom shall be strongly encouraged. All other requirements including the use of masks and hand sanitizer shall be optional for those who are fully vaccinated.
  - Masks and hand sanitizer will be available in each courtroom. Everyone in a courtroom will have the right to wear a mask if they so choose.
  - Jury selections shall return to the Marathon County Courthouse effective immediately. Social distancing requests by jurors will be honored upon request.
  - d. Prospective jurors will be asked to complete jury panel screening questions regarding Covid-19.
  - e. As of June 21, 2021, all court appearances shall be in person.
  - f. Appearance via video conferencing will be available upon timely request and approval by the court.

g. Marathon County Judges reserve the right to order additional modifications or amendments as needed to ensure the health and safety of jurors, litigants, attorneys, visitors, court staff, judges, and other individuals participating in court appearances and jury trials.

DATE: 5/25/2021

Michael K. Moran Presiding Judge

Marathon County, Wisconsin