

## Courtroom Protocols

1. Justices and court staff will practice social distancing and appropriate hygiene at all times.
2. Speakers, including justices and any attorney at the podium, are not required to wear masks. All other persons in the courtroom, including counsel, must wear masks.
3. The maximum number of persons permitted in the Third Court of Appeals courtroom is 31 persons - three justices, one clerk, two Court staff attorneys (one on each side of the courtroom), four party attorneys (2 at each counsel table), one DPS trooper, and twenty additional attorneys or spectators in the gallery.
4. Only two attorneys per side may sit at each of the counsel tables; additional attorneys must sit in the gallery. For cases with multiple parties containing more than two attorneys please contact the Clerk's office to make special arrangements.
5. A court clerk will sanitize the podium and microphone after each speaker.
6. Each counsel table will be provided, sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer and bottled water.
7. All persons in the courtroom are required to maintain a distance of at least six feet from others at all times.
8. Oral arguments will be scheduled in one-hour increments to allow for sanitizing of the courtroom and surfaces between arguments. The Court will not have a joint docket call for the causes set for submission. Instead, all participants shall appear only at the time set for their oral argument.
9. In order to keep spectators in the gallery to a minimum, those wishing to observe oral arguments may do so on the Court's YouTube channel  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHh91c6f79r2EAmlBH4T63g?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHh91c6f79r2EAmlBH4T63g?view_as=subscriber).