



**NEW SOUTH WALES
COURT SECURITY ACT 2005
– Section 7(1) (b)**

ORDER

In accordance with the provisions of Section 7(1) of the *Court Security Act 2005* and in recognition of public health advice intended to reduce exposure to COVID-19, it is necessary to secure the order and safety of court premises.

ACCORDINGLY I ORDER that members of the public who do not have a legitimate reason associated with a particular matter listed before the Local Court of New South Wales, or in relation to the exercise of the jurisdiction of the Local Court, not be admitted to any part of Local Court premises.

In the case of defendants facing sentence or persons in need of protection in relation to a domestic or personal violence proceeding, up to two support persons are permitted to be present in the court building. In the case of a defendant who is suffering from a mental health or cognitive impairment condition and is accompanied by their legal representative up to two support persons are permitted to be present in the court building provided the legal representative satisfies the Sheriff's officer that there is a genuine need for the attendance of the support person(s). In relation to victims of crime required to give evidence, one support person is permitted to be present in the court building with the victim.

All persons attending, including support person(s), are required to maintain appropriate adherence to social distancing requirements and follow the directions of court employees.

To ensure the safety of all, entrants must wear a fitted face covering or mask as a condition of entry to Local Court premises. Where a participant seeks an exemption to this Order, in so far as it relates to fitted face coverings or masks, they must provide evidence of a physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, that makes wearing a fitted face covering unsuitable. The simple assertion of such an exemption will not suffice. Where the exemption sought is based on medical grounds, written support from a medical or other relevant practitioner, or a statutory declaration specifying the physical or mental illness or condition, will be required.

This Order will remain in effect on and from today to Monday 22 November 2021 at 5.00pm. This Order may be extended in accordance with Section 7(1B) of the Act if the circumstances continue to make it necessary to secure order and safety within court premises.

DATED AT SYDNEY THIS 25th DAY OF OCTOBER 2021

Peter Johnstone

Judge Peter Johnstone
Chief Magistrate

