

# The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana

## FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

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**Grand Master, 2020-2021**  
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Organized 1812

### Directive

**April 28, 2021**

On April 27, 2021, Governor John Bel Edwards announced:

*"Following sustained improvement in COVID, hospitalizations and an increase in the supply and availability of vaccines, some mitigation measures will be eased starting April 28, 2021. The state-wide mask mandate will be lifted but masks will be required for specific settings"*

Governor John Bel Edwards also announced that the revision will allow local governments to set their own mandates, but masks will still be required in certain places (see chart below). This revision of the mandate is not an end to the recommendation of wearing a mask to prevent the spread of COVID.



Therefore, I am issuing the following directive :

Beginning April 28, 2021, the Worshipful Master of each constituent Lodge will use his discretion to determine if masks in Lodge are necessary.

Reminders:

1. All Masons should maintain social distancing, when practicable.
2. Lodges are encouraged to have hand sanitizer available in the Lodge building.
3. Most importantly, all Louisiana Masons are strongly encouraged NOT to attend Lodge if they have any signs of illness or do not feel comfortable, at the present time, with attending. Masons must self-screen for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 before attending any Lodge meeting. Those individuals considered to be "at-risk", including those who are 65 or older, and especially those with chronic lung disease; moderate to severe asthma; chronic heart disease; severe obesity; diabetes; chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; liver disease; weakened immune system or other risk factors are encouraged not to attend Lodge. You are the sole decision-maker as to whether you should attend Lodge. There is nothing more important at this time than the continued well-being of our Louisiana Masons.

I will issue future Directives when it is deemed both safe and prudent to do so while, at the same time, adhering to the mandates of the State of Louisiana.

Fraternally,

James E. "Jimmie" Steen  
Grand Master

**"Charity, Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love"**

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