

# Buncombe County Court Guidance During COVID-19

## Do I Need to Come to Court? Updated 4/21/2021



Many Court proceedings in Buncombe County are being postponed to limit the spread of COVID-19.

- If you are charged with a crime, contact your lawyer or the Public Defender's Office at 828.259.3423 for your next court date. You may also call the District Attorney's Office: 828.259.3410 or Clerk of Superior Court: 828.259.3400.
- **For your First Appearance following an arrest, you are expected to come to court.**
- **After this First Appearance, you may not be required to appear on your next court date.** Please contact the Public Defender's office at 828.259.3423 or your attorney if you have questions about your individual case. Be sure your attorney has good contact information for you at all times.
- Jury trials have resumed (as of February 15, 2021).
- If you received a May or June **Administrative Court** date for traffic or misdemeanor charges, your case may have been rescheduled. Go to [BuncombeDA.org](http://BuncombeDA.org) to confirm your court date.
- The courthouse is still open for essential cases (like Domestic Violence Protective Orders).
- If you have a pending **Civil trial**, contact the Trial Court Administrator: 828.259.6479. For other Civil Court questions call the Clerk's Office: 828.259.3400.
- For **Family Court** questions call your case coordinator or 828.259.3415.
- For **Juvenile Court** questions call your court counselor or 828.225.7330.

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## What to Expect in the Courthouse Updated 4/21/2021



If you do need to come to court, these measures are being taken to ensure your safety during a visit to the courthouse.

- Guidelines set by the CDC are being followed to ensure your safety in the courthouse and social distancing will be enforced.
- Upon arrival in the courthouse, your temperature will be taken.
- Per Buncombe County Ordinance, masks are required in public spaces. If you do not have one, one will be provided to you upon arrival.
- Plan to arrive at the Buncombe County Courthouse, 60 Court Plaza in Asheville, 30 minutes before your essential court session.
- If you are experiencing symptoms, do not come to court. Contact your attorney or the Clerk's office at 828.259.3400.

## Resources & More Information

- [Buncombe Court Phone Directory: https://www.nccourts.gov/locations/buncombe-county/contact-directory](https://www.nccourts.gov/locations/buncombe-county/contact-directory)
- [To find your court date, click here to be directed to nccourts.gov/court-dates](https://www.nccourts.gov/court-dates)
- [If you would like to receive reminders about your court date, click here to be directed to nccourts.gov/notifications](https://www.nccourts.gov/notifications)
- [For more information about face coverings/masks, click here to be directed to cdc.gov/about-face-coverings](https://www.cdc.gov/about-face-coverings)

