

ORDER NO. 2022 - 1

**SAN JUAN COUNTY LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER ORDER
REGARDING COVID-19: REPEALING ORDER 2021-2 REGARDING THE
WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS**

WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is caused by a virus that spreads easily from person to person which may result in serious illness or death and has been classified by the World Health Organization as a worldwide pandemic;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has spread throughout Washington State, including San Juan County, significantly threatening the life and health of persons in San Juan County;

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a State of Emergency for all counties throughout the state of Washington as a result of COVID-19 outbreak in the United States and confirmed person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Washington State;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the San Juan County Council declared a state of emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a presidential proclamation declaring that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States is a national emergency;

WHEREAS, for many people vaccinations are effective in reducing the risk of serious illness and death from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, there is currently an ongoing and dramatic reduction in the spread of COVID-19 as the wave of cases related to the Omicron variant recedes;

WHEREAS, the Governor has announced the scaling back of statewide face covering requirements in most settings after March 11, 2022

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines together with the anticipated continued effectiveness of voluntary compliance with non-pharmaceutical health measures such as social distancing, frequent hand washing, hand sanitizer use, and the wearing of face coverings when appropriate is expected to continue to maintain the spread of the disease at manageable levels;

WHEREAS, RCW 70.05.070 requires and empowers the local health officer to take such action as is necessary to control and prevent the spread of any contagious or infectious diseases within the jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, WAC 246-100-036 requires the local health officer, when necessary, to institute disease control measures as he or she deems necessary based on his or her professional judgment, current standards of practice, and the best available medical and scientific

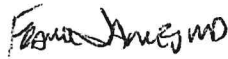
information;

WHEREAS, in my professional judgment, based on the current standards of practice and the best available medical and scientific information, it is my determination that while all persons shall continue to abide by any applicable state or federal requirements, the local face covering requirements adopted in Health Officer Order 2021-2 in are no longer necessary to control and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in San Juan County after March 11, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Frank James, Local Health Officer for San Juan County, under the authority of RCW 70.05.070, RCW 43.20.050, and WAC 246-100-036, and on the basis of the foregoing recitals, make the following ORDER:

San Juan County Health Officer Order No. 2021-2 is repealed is effective Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 12:01 a.m.

DATED this 11 day of March, 2022.



FRANK JAMES, M.D.
SAN JUAN COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER