

# Judge Accused of Failing to Follow COVID-19 Recommendations is Removed From 2 Trials

“An Ohio judge has been removed from two upcoming criminal trials after a lawyer for the defendants alleged that the judge was failing to implement COVID-19 precautions,” reports Debra Cassens Weiss in *ABA Journal's Daily News*.

“Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor removed Judge Mark Fleegle of Muskingum County, Ohio, from the trials last week.”

“Columbus, Ohio, lawyer Harry Reinhart, 69, had alleged in a November affidavit that Fleegle conducts all hearings in person and does not require facial coverings. Reinhart said he is at higher risk if he contracts COVID-19, and his clients fear that he will be distracted at trial by his own health concerns, O'Connor said in her disqualification order.”

***Read the article.***