



**NEW YORK STATE SUPREME COURT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**I.L.A. – A.F.L. – C.I.O.**

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June 30, 2020

**TO: ALL SCOA MEMBERS**  
**FROM: SCOA EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**RE: VISITOR SCREENING PROTOCOLS**

This morning the Office of Court Administration issued their policy concerning new visitor screening protocols to begin July 6, 2020. This protocol will require uniformed personnel to conduct temperature screenings at court entrances. While the Unions representing officers adamantly disagree with this decision, management does have the prerogative to institute such measures. We have very clearly opposed this decision as it is widely held by health experts that a temperature reading in and of itself does not confirm the presence nor the absence of the COVID-19 virus. We also do not believe the pointing of an implement at the heads of court users is appropriate. These concerns fall on deaf ears as these decisions are rarely made with the concerns of employees taken into consideration.

While management will invoke their given prerogative to institute this policy, we also have the right to negotiate this change in the terms and conditions of our employment as impact bargaining under the Taylor Law. We have all along stated clearly our intent to take advantage of that right and are in the midst of scheduling sessions toward that end. It should go without saying that no Officer should proceed with these measures until full guidance has been provided from senior supervisory staff. These scanners must be in full working order and all problems and issues rising from this new policy must be reported to commanding officers and union personnel immediately. Please ensure that the full procedure is followed with extreme specificity, make sure all Officers on post are aware of any potential problems and do not expedite the process as laid out in the announcement of this policy. Further information will become available as the Unions conduct their right under the law to impact bargain this policy change.