
**STANDING ORDER REGARDING MOBILE DEVICES AND PROTECTING THE
COURT’S RECORD**

THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS:

Concerns have arisen concerning certain types of improper uses of electronic devices in the Superior Municipal Court, and the Court wishes to have a policy that facilitates normal and proper uses of devices while prohibiting improper uses,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. All electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, tablets, laptop computers and iPods, shall be turned off before entering the courtroom. Any electronic transmission of information from the courtroom is prohibited without the express consent of the Court. No person, including, but not limited to any party (defendant, parent of a juvenile defendant and/or defense attorney), witness, juror and/or spectator, with the exception of court personnel, may make a visual (still and/or video) or audio recording of any court proceeding or person involved in any court proceeding. Any person can order an official transcript of proceedings upon payment of the cost thereof.
2. The prosecutor and defense attorney of record may use their cell phones or tablets for the purpose of scheduling future court dates in a case.
3. Any party to a case proceeding to trial, including the prosecutor, defendant, and/or the attorney(s) for defendant, may use a tablet or laptop computer for the purpose of taking notes during the trial, and/or for the purpose of displaying evidentiary material. In the event the use of the tablet or laptop computer is disruptive to the court proceedings, the Court may direct the party to discontinue such use.
4. Electronic devices, including cell phones, tablets and/or laptop computers, may be used in the hallway area of the court facility so long as such use is not disruptive of court proceedings or court personnel. Cell phones shall be set to silent or vibrate operation.
5. No electronic device shall be used to make a visual or audio recording (including but not limited to photographs, video recordings and/or audio recordings) anywhere in the Court facility, including but not limited to in the courtroom, hallway area, court clerk’s window/counter/office and/or jury deliberation room. The Court, in its sole discretion, may grant authority to make a visual and/or audio recording. Such express authority must be obtained prior to engaging in any visual and/or audio recording. In the event the Court grants express authority to a person to make a visual and/or audio recording, such authority may be revoked at any time for any reason, in the sole discretion of the Court.
6. Members of the media are subject to this Order. No member of the media shall use any recording device of any type, including any camera, in the courtroom without prior express authorization from the Court. Any such express authorization may be revoked at any time for any reason, at the sole discretion of the Court.

VIOLATIONS:

Any person found to be in violation of this Order may be subject to contempt proceedings. Sanctions may be remedial or punitive, including a fine and/or jail sentence. Upon probable cause to believe that a person is actively violating any provision of this Order, the Court personnel and/or law enforcement officers are authorized to inspect and temporarily seize any item which they reasonably believe was used in violation of this Order. The Court will then examine such seized item. In the event any electronic device (including cell phone, tablet, laptop computer, camera or any other type of device) is determined to have been used or is being used in violation of this Order, the Court may then order a law enforcement officer to confiscate such item. Such law enforcement officer shall continue to hold such item until the Court, Court personnel, law enforcement officer(s) and/or the owner or possessor of such item delete any photos or recordings taken in violation of this Order, or until the further order of the Court. The Court shall make a determination of what sanctions, if any, shall be imposed and the disposition of the device.

SO ORDERED ON April 3, 2025

BY THE COURT:



David J. Thrower, Presiding Judge