

EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT: ARAPAHOE,
DOUGLAS, ELBERT and LINCOLN COUNTIES,
COLORADO

Arapahoe County Justice Center
7325 South Potomac Street
Centennial, Colorado 80112

Arapahoe County Court, Division A
1790 West Littleton Boulevard
Littleton, Colorado 80120

Arapahoe County Court, Division B
15400 East 14th Place
Aurora, Colorado 80011

Douglas County Justice Center,
4000 Justice Way, #2009,
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104

Elbert County Courthouse,
PO Box 232, 751 Ute Street,
Kiowa, Colorado 80117

Lincoln County Courthouse,
PO Box 128, 103 Third Avenue,
Hugo, Colorado 80821

•COURT USE ONLY •

CJO 07-26

**CHIEF JUDGE ORDER
RESTRICTING FIREARMS AND WEAPONS IN COURT AND PROBATION
FACILITIES**

This standing chief judge order restates parts and amends parts of the prior order of the Eighteenth Judicial District wherein the District strictly prohibits all persons, not specifically authorized, from bringing firearms or deadly weapons, concealed or not concealed, into those county facilities of the District in which Colorado state courts and probation departments operate.

Court cases by their very nature cause some participants to have strong feelings which can, unfortunately, be conducive to violence or the threat of violence. Those members of the public attending court or entering public facilities to conduct court, probation, or other government related business, along with the judges and employees of the courts and probation department, have a right to expect the general environment within public facilities to be safe and secure from threat and bodily harm.

WHEREAS certain recent events on the national, state and local level have emphasized the need for enhanced security and the Sheriffs of each county are responsible for the security in their respective courts. It is prudent to not impede the Sheriffs and to allow them to utilize their

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extensive expertise, experience and discretion to properly ensure the safety of all who enter the court and probation facilities.

To this end, state courts, in accordance with Article III of the Colorado Constitution, have the independence and the inherent power to regulate the environment of court and probation operational areas and facilities. In accordance with Chief Justice Directive 95-01, the chief judge of each judicial district has the authority to determine what actions are required in order to insure a safe and secure environment within those areas or facilities housing court and probation functions.

It is therefore ordered that the following actions restricting the introduction of firearms and/or deadly weapons into those facilities of the Eighteenth Judicial District of the State of Colorado in which state courts and state probation departments are located are enacted:

1. The public is specifically prohibited from bringing firearms and other deadly weapons into any building facility in which courts and probation departments operate.

2. No firearms or deadly weapons shall be transported into a court or probation facility unless in the possession of court authorized law enforcement or security officers as licensed by the State of Colorado.

3. No permit authorizing the carrying of a concealed weapon shall be construed as sufficient authority to abrogate this order.

4. Authorization is provided to law enforcement officers of the respective sheriff departments of the District to carry firearms within the court and probation facilities of the District for the specific purposes of providing court security and the transportation of those who are in the custody of the sheriff.

5. Authorization is provided to correction officers of the Colorado Department of Corrections (DOC) to carry firearms within the court and probation facilities of the District for the specific purpose of transporting those who are in the custody of DOC.

6. The Sheriff's Departments in Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln Counties may promulgate reasonable and appropriate policies to permit certified law enforcement officers currently employed with other law enforcement agencies to bring appropriate weapons into their respective court facilities so long as those law enforcement officers have no personal cases pending in court. Personal cases are defined as cases where they or their immediate family members are a named party in any criminal, civil, domestic relations, juvenile, probate or mental health proceeding. The respective Sheriff's Departments are responsible for making that determination and enforcement of this prohibition.

7. The sheriffs of the counties within the District are authorized and empowered to enforce this order and are asked to consult with the chief judge of the District should there be any concerns about the order. The judicial officers of the District may invoke the contempt process as authorized by law to assist with the enforcement of this order.

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This Order replaces the previously entered chief judge order "Limiting Firearms and Weapons within Court Facilities" as entered on May 28, 2003. This Order may be implemented effective December 3, 2007 and shall remain in effect until such time it is amended or repealed by further order of the chief judge.

Done this 1st day of November, 2007

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Blair Sylvester".

WILLIAM BLAIR SYLVESTER, CHIEF JUDGE