

# SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ADAMS COUNTY AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF BROOMFIELD ORDER OF THE CHIEF JUDGE 10-02 Amended 2/6/17

# **ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN JUDICIAL BUILDINGS**

Pursuant to the authority granted to the undersigned Chief Judge by Chief Justice Directive 95-01, the following order is hereby entered concerning the possession and use of electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones, laptops, PDAs, computer tablets, I-Pads or any other device capable of capturing photographs or creating audio or video recordings within the Adams County Justice Center or Broomfield Combined Courts.

# THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS:

The use of all electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), laptops, computer tablets ,I-Pads and all devices capable of capturing photographs or creating audio or video recordings, is strictly controlled within court facilities. Prohibited uses include all photography and videography including sound recordings, broadcast sound, and broadcast still or moving images. More highly restrictive access in an individual courtroom, if applicable at the discretion of the Judicial Officer, shall be posted at the courtroom entrance.

# I. IN ALL HALLWAYS AND PUBLIC AREAS OF JUDICIAL BUIDLINGS (All areas other than Courtrooms):

Electronic devices may be used so long as such use is not disruptive of court proceedings. All devices including cell phones, tablets, laptop computers and PDAs must be set to vibrate or silent ring settings and may <u>never</u> be used to capture images, videos, or sound recordings. <u>The use of any type of audio- or video-recording device, including but not limited to cell phones, laptop computers or cameras, anywhere in the courthouse, including but not limited to the clerk's <u>office, the clerk's windows or jury assembly room, is strictly prohibited without express consent of the Court.</u> A Judicial Officer may further restrict use and possession of electronic devices that is disruptive of court proceedings or creates a potential danger to anyone in or around the court facilities.</u>

#### II. IN ALL COURTROOMS:

All electronic devices shall be turned off when entering the courtroom and shall remain turned off at all times while in the courtroom. The exception to this prohibition is that such devices may be used for note taking, settings, legal research, and use of stored electronic data for court proceedings, provided they are muted and not disruptive of any court proceedings. Any electronic transmission of information from the courtroom is prohibited without express consent of the Court. No person, except court personnel and media operating under an court approved order for expanded media coverage, may make a sound or photographic recording of any proceeding or person including, but not limited to, jurors, witnesses, attorneys, court personnel, or parties.

Official transcripts of proceedings may be ordered through the office of the Clerk of Court. A Judicial Officer may further restrict use and possession of electronic devices in the courtroom.

#### III .EXCEPTIONS:

Exceptions to these rules may be granted solely by permission of a Judicial Officer of the Seventeenth Judicial District.

# IV. MEDIA:

Court Facility Access: Members of the media desiring access to the courthouse with cameras or other recording devices shall be required to present a valid media credential or other valid photo identification and official business card at the security checkpoint. With a valid media credential, cameras shall be permitted and may be used in the hallways and public areas of the courthouse. All others wishing to request access to the facility with cameras or other recording devices with the intent to capture any type of photographs, video or audio must complete the form provided here as Attachment A to be submitted to the District Administrator.

**Courtroom Access**: Current rules for expanded media access govern the use of cameras in courtrooms. *See* Rule 2, Chapter 38 of Colorado Supreme Court Rules, Public Access to Records and Information. Additional information including a request form is available at the Colorado Courts website: Media Cameras in the Courtroom.

### **V. VIOLATIONS:**

Anyone found to be in violation of the provisions of this Administrative Order may be subject to contempt proceedings. Sanctions for contempt may be remedial or punitive, including a fine and/or jail sentence.

EFFECTIVE this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.

PATRICK T. MURPHY

Chief Judge

Seventeenth Judicial District