

CHIEF JUDGE DIRECTIVE 02-02

The following Chief Judge Directive concerns security issues in the Chaffee County Judicial Facility. It has come to the attention of the Court that the Sheriff of this County has been electronically searching persons entering the Courtrooms on certain days. The method of such a search is by the use of a metal detection device commonly known as a wand. This Directive shall clarify the procedure that shall be used.

1. Persons entering the courthouse to do required business or to observe court proceedings shall not be subject to electronic search unless they are entering a courtroom in which there is a need for increased security measures as determined by the Chaffee County Sheriff and/or the presiding county or district judge.
2. If such a need is determined by the Sheriff, then a non-intrusive search for weapons shall be performed by a metal detection device.
3. No person shall be deprived temporarily or otherwise of any item which is not a weapon unless directed by the judge conducting proceedings in the courtroom.
4. No person shall be searched unless he or she is entering into a courtroom. (Persons appearing to transact business at the Office of the Clerk shall not be searched).
5. The sheriff shall notify the judge of the court where extraordinary security measures are, in the sheriff's opinion, needed.
6. A sign shall be posted on the door of the judicial facility advising persons entering that increased security measures are in effect. Such notification shall contain the effective dates of such measures.

This directive shall be effective on February 1, 2002, and shall remain in effect until modified by the Chief Judge of the District.

Dated: February 1, 2002

Kenneth Plotz
Chief Judge

cc: Sheriff
Bailiff
Court Staff
Judges