
IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT, JUVENILE COURT, AND JUSTICE COURT
SAN JUAN COUNTY
STATE OF UTAH

**IN RE: PHOTOGRAPHY, FILMING,
AND RECORDING IN COURTHOUSE**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

ORDER NO. 2023-04

Rule 4-401.02 of the Utah Code of Judicial Administration (UCJA) allows the use of portable electronic devices in courthouses, subject to restrictions set by presiding judges on time, place, and manner of use. In order to maintain safety, decorum, and order at courthouses in the Seventh Judicial District, the court hereby establishes restrictions on the use of portable electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, laptops, tablets, watches, cameras, etc.).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that there shall be no photography, filming, or recording (hereinafter known as “Recording”) in courthouses, except as authorized by court rule, a judge, or this Order. “Courthouse” includes building entrances and exits, and all areas within the building, including common areas. This Order is not intended to restrict Recording when conducted on court premises outside the courthouse building, provided the activities do not disrupt court operations, obstruct access to or from the building, or compromise security.

Recording is prohibited in the following areas of the courthouse:

- clerks’ desks or offices, clerical work stations, juvenile probation offices or workstations, law librarian desks, and any other areas where court staff are providing assistance to members of the public;
- security work/screening stations, security offices, and prisoner transport areas;

- public areas outside the courtroom, conference room, and court teleconferencing booth(s) (cameras must face away from entry doors to ensure privacy for people entering and exiting these areas);
- lobbies for the Office of the Clerk of Court;
- areas where non-court personnel, such as legal aid, mediators, or educators are providing services to the public as authorized by the judiciary;
- stairwells and elevators;
- restrooms;
- courtrooms, unless authorized by a judge or court rule; and
- any area of the courthouse not accessible to the public.

Recording is permitted in the following areas of the courthouse:

- public hallways not adjacent to courtroom doors;
- public areas outside the courtroom (cameras must face away from courtroom and conference room entry doors) and;
- lobby area.

Recording court patrons entering or exiting courtroom doors is prohibited without the person's express permission. Recording must be conducted with minimal noise and may not disrupt court operations or compromise security. All portable electronic devices are subject to screening or inspection at the time of entry and at any time within the courthouse in accordance with UCJA rule 3-414. Portable electronic devices are subject to confiscation if there is reason to believe that a device is being used in violation of court rules or this Order.

Law enforcement officers with body cameras may not activate the recording function of the device in courtrooms or the courthouse when present for court business. This restriction does not apply when law enforcement is engaged in or responding to law enforcement activities, emergencies, or active crimes, or are otherwise authorized by a judicial officer or court rule.

This Order is not intended to interfere with or restrict the rights of media to request permission to provide electronic media coverage in accordance with UCJA rule 4-401.01.

A violation of this Order may be the basis for removal from the courthouse or an order to show cause for contempt.

A copy of this Order shall be provided to court employees and security officers, and shall be conspicuously posted at entrances to the courthouse. This Order shall be made available to anyone upon request.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 27th day of March, 2023

Mary L. Manley

Mary L. Manley
Presiding Judge
Seventh Judicial District, Juvenile Courts



George M. Harmond

George M. Harmond
Presiding Judge
Seventh Judicial District, District Courts

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George M. Harmond
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