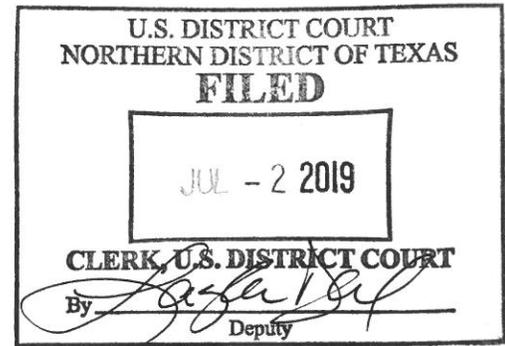


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

MISCELLANEOUS ORDER NO. 63
Effective August 1, 2019



No camera, video recorder, tape recorder, laptop computer, electronic tablet, cellular telephone, pager, personal digital assistant, smart watch, or any other type of electronic communication device (hereinafter referred to as “devices”) may be brought onto a court floor in the Northern District of Texas. A court floor is defined as any floor of a building on which is located a courtroom, judge’s chambers, clerk’s office, probation office, court conference room, jury assembly room, or any other room designated for petit or grand jury impanelment. The following exceptions apply:

1. Employees of the United States Marshals Service (USMS), Court Security Officers (CSOs), other law enforcement personnel, upon production of proper identification, and employees of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice who have transported prisoners to attend court proceedings may possess devices on a court floor, unless otherwise directed by a judge.
2. Employees of the federal judiciary, General Services Administration, and badged or escorted contractors of GSA or the judiciary, may possess devices on a court floor unless otherwise directed by a judge or court executive as to their physical area of responsibility and control.
3. An attorney with a valid photo identification card and another form of identification that establishes attorney status, such as a state bar card or similar bar identification credentials, may bring a device onto a court floor unless otherwise directed by a judge or court executive as to their physical area of control.
4. Any other person, if authorized verbally or in writing by a judge or court executive as to their physical area of responsibility and control, may possess a device on a court floor.
5. Grand and petit jurors and participants in court ceremonies, such as naturalization ceremonies, will be given specific instructions about possession of devices. These instructions vary by division.
6. Additional division-specific rules are identified on the chart attached to this order.

Devices allowed on a court floor may not be used in a courtroom without the explicit permission of the presiding judge and may not be used to photograph, record, televise or broadcast court proceedings by audio, video, or other means. The presiding judge may impose additional restrictions concerning the use of a device in the courtroom to ensure that its use is consistent with the rights of the parties, will not unduly distract participants in the proceeding, and will not otherwise interfere with the administration of justice.

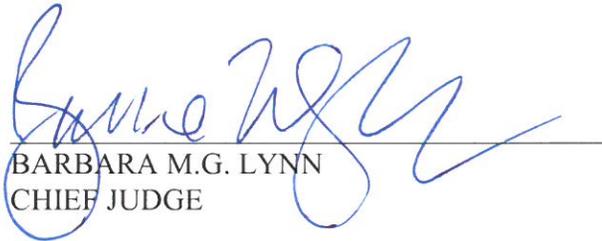
Notwithstanding any exception, for reasons of privacy, safety, and security, no person may take photographs, make audio or video recordings, or transmit live streaming audio or video on any court floor, except: as provided under LR 83.18 and LCrR 53.1 for ceremonial proceedings; with the express permission of a judge or court executive as to their physical area of responsibility and control; or with the express permission of a building tenant as to their physical area of responsibility and control. Additionally, any person who possesses a device in a federal courthouse in the Northern District of Texas must comply at all times with instructions given by a federal law enforcement officer, which may further restrict use of the device.

Any person who violates this order may be subject to contempt sanctions and barred from entering a courthouse with a device in the future.

This order restates and replaces Miscellaneous Order No. 63 entered on August 24, 2007.

SO ORDERED.

July 1, 2019.



BARBARA M.G. LYNN
CHIEF JUDGE

MISCELLANEOUS ORDER NO. 63 ATTACHMENT

Dallas	<p>Protective Service Officers (PSOs) perform screening on the first floor of the Earle Cabell Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse using screening protocol established by the building's Facility Security Committee under regulations promulgated by the Department of Homeland Security. PSOs are contract officers of the Federal Protective Service. Secondary screening is performed by CSOs on floors thirteen through sixteen under the direction of USMS.</p> <p>Unless otherwise directed by USMS due to heightened security, an attorney with a valid photo identification card and another form of identification that establishes attorney status, such as a state bar card or similar bar identification credentials, may pass through a metal detector without secondary screening on floors thirteen through sixteen. Any large item carried by the attorney, such as a brief case, purse, or box, must be screened through an x-ray machine and is subject to being searched.</p> <p>Any person on a court floor that does not have a CSO screening station (floors one, three, eleven, and twelve) may have a device but may not use the device to take photographs, make audio or video recordings, or transmit live streaming audio or video except: as provided under LR 83.18 and LCrR 53.1 for ceremonial proceedings; with the express permission of a judge or court executive as to their physical area of responsibility and control; or with the express permission of a building tenant as to their physical area of responsibility and control.</p> <p>On floors thirteen through sixteen, a person may not bring a device past a screening station unless one of the exceptions in this order applies.</p>
Fort Worth	A person who is not a tenant in the building may not bring a device onto the fourth floor of the Eldon B. Mahon U.S. Courthouse, except as provided in exceptions 1 and 2 of this order.
Abilene, Amarillo, Lubbock, San Angelo, and Wichita Falls	Non-judiciary tenants may have devices on court floors but may not bring devices into a courtroom without permission.

Effective 8/1/2019