

GENERAL RULE 1.5

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

(A) PHOTOGRAPHS AND RECORDINGS

The taking of photographs and operation of recording equipment in the courtroom or its surrounding areas, and radio and television broadcasting from the courtroom or its surrounding areas, during the progress of or in connection with judicial proceedings is prohibited whether or not court is actually in session. A judicial officer may, however, permit (a) the use of electronic or photographic means for the presentation of evidence or the perpetuation of a record and (b) the broadcasting, televising, recording, or photographing of ceremonial or naturalization proceedings.

(B) WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Wireless communication devices are allowed and may be used in all areas of the courthouse, including courtrooms. All wireless communication devices must be rendered silent before entering a courtroom. Wireless communication devices may not be used to photograph, record, televise, or otherwise transmit any images or sounds in a courtroom, judge's chambers, jury room, or corridor of the building on the floor on which a courtroom or jury room is located. Wireless communication devices must not be used for voice communication in a courtroom during judicial proceedings without the express permission of the presiding judge.

(C) EXCLUSION AND INSPECTION

The United States Marshal Service and court security officers are authorized to exclude from any courtroom, prohibit from the courthouse, or confiscate any devices they have reason to believe violate this rule. All electronic devices are subject to visual and/or electronic inspection by the United States Marshal Service and court security officers at any time. An inspection may include a demonstration by the person in possession of the device that it is functional.