

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
43<sup>rd</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
STROUDSBURG, PA

5CV13  
38 Admin. Order

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Cell Phone, Camera, and Computer Use by the Media

Section 1: Photographic and Video Cameras

In accordance with Rule 112 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Court "prohibits the taking of photographs, video, or motion pictures of any judicial proceedings or in the hearing room or courtroom or its environs during the judicial proceedings."

Additionally, the Court "prohibits the transmission of communications by telephone, radio, television, or advanced communication technology from the hearing room or the courtroom or its environs during the process of or in connection with any judicial proceedings, whether or not the court is actually in session."

"The environs of the hearing room or courtroom is defined as the area immediately surrounding the entrances and exits to the hearing room or courtroom." PA R.Crim.P. 112

Cameras, both photographic and video, are only permitted in the courthouse on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor immediately adjacent to Court Administration and on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor in the hallway between the Monroe County Sheriff's Office-Civil Division and the Office of the District Attorney.

Cameras are permitted to shoot into the breezeway between the Courthouse and Annex buildings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, however, they are not permitted on the breezeway.

In accordance with Canon 3 (A)(7) of the Code of Judicial Conduct, cameras are only permitted in courtrooms during ceremonial proceedings with prior permission expressly obtained from Court Administration.

Section 2: Cell Phones

Only credentialed media personnel are permitted to enter the courthouse with their cell phones. Reporters must present credentials from their media outlet, which must include a photo. Those who do not have media credentials with photo must present their media credential together with valid photo identification. Media personnel are required to deposit

their cell phones with Court Administration on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Media personnel are allowed to use their cell phones in areas immediately adjacent to Court Administration on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Media personnel are prohibited from broadcasting or otherwise transmitting video or sound recordings or photographs via cell phone or similar device from any courtroom.

Cell phones with photographic or video capabilities are subject to the camera restrictions in Section 1.

### Section 3: Laptop Computers and Electronic Tablets

Media personnel are permitted to use laptops and electronic tablets in the courtroom for the sole purpose of note-taking. Transmission from or recording by laptops, electronic tablets, or similar devices is strictly prohibited.

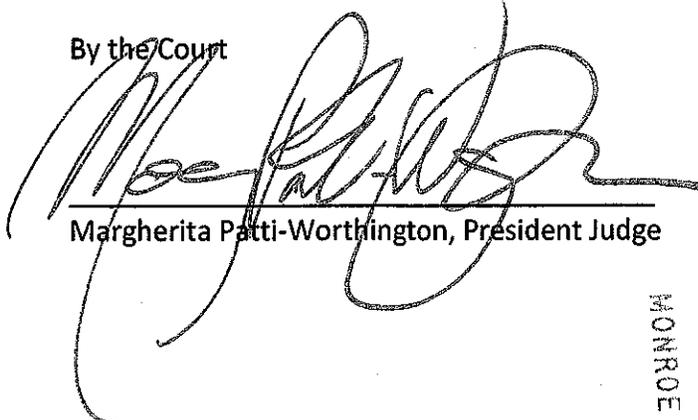
Laptops, tablets, and similar devices are subject to the same camera restrictions in Section 1.

### Section 4: Recording

"The stenographic, mechanical or electronic recording, or the recording using any advanced communication technology, of any judicial proceedings by anyone other than the official court stenographer in a court case, for any purpose, is prohibited." PA R.Crim.P. 112 (C)

All recording devices are subject to the same camera restrictions in Section 1.

By the Court

  
Margherita Patti-Worthington, President Judge

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MONROE COUNTY, PA