

**FILED**

JUN 24 2015

Clerk, U.S. District Court  
District Of Montana  
Missoula

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA

IN RE: PERSONAL ELECTRONIC  
DEVICES IN THE COURTHOUSES  
OF THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA.

STANDING ORDER No. DLC-24

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. *General Rule.* Possession and use of personal electronic devices, including but not limited to tablets, cameras, phones, or laptop computers, whether capable of transmitting or recording or not, is prohibited in all courthouses of this District. Upon entry to a courthouse and upon demand, all such devices are subject to security screening and screening for compliance with this Rule. Devices not subject to an exception must be left with court security officers.

2. *Exceptions.*

- (a) District of Montana Judges may use personal electronic devices in any courthouse or courtroom and may set policy for chambers staff.
- (b) Employees of the Clerk's Office, the United States Probation Office, and the United States Marshals Service, contract court security officers, and building managers and General Services Administration employees who are stationed on-site may use personal electronic devices in any courthouse.
- (c) Attorneys who are appearing before the Court in a calendared matter,

including scheduling conferences, may use personal electronic devices that are not disruptive or distracting. Use must be limited to purposes related to the appearance. Personal electronic devices may not be used to communicate publicly about the case. Photography, video-recording, and verbatim recording are prohibited. Audible rings or alarms are prohibited. In courtrooms, voice communication using electronic devices is prohibited. In sealed proceedings, personal electronic devices may not be used for communication. An attorney may authorize an employee to use a device in compliance with this paragraph, but the attorney is exclusively responsible for the employee's conduct.

- (d) Employees of the United States Attorney's Office and federal agents or law enforcement officers visiting the United States Attorney's Office may bring personal electronic devices into courthouses but may use devices only inside the office space of the United States Attorney. Photography and video-recording showing courthouse space is prohibited.
- (e) Court reporters employed by or acting pursuant to contract with the Court may use personal electronic devices. Photography and video-recording are prohibited. In courtrooms, voice communication and

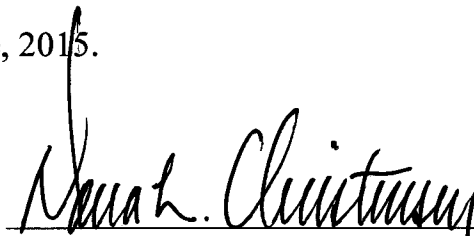
audible rings or alarms are prohibited.

- (f) By written order, a Judge may authorize photography or video-recording on special occasions, such as naturalization or investiture proceedings.

3. This Order supersedes D. Mont. L.R. 1.3(d) and any other order on this subject.

4. This Order shall be effective immediately upon filing.

DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015.

  
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Dana L. Christensen, Chief Judge  
United States District Court