

**F I L E D**  
Clerk of the Superior Court

DEC 28 2022

By: A. Cabrales

**THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

**IN RE PROHIBITING THE USE OF  
CAMERAS AND OTHER DIGITAL  
IMAGE-CAPTURE DEVICES IN  
COURTHOUSE**

**GENERAL ORDER OF THE  
PRESIDING DEPARTMENT**

**ORDER NO. 010123-03**

**THIS COURT FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

This order has been developed for the protection of all persons with business in the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego, courthouse facilities, and to ensure the safe, secure, orderly, and efficient handling of proceedings and court business. This order is consistent with California Rules of Court, rule 10.603, which vests in the Presiding Judge the responsibility of establishing policies and providing a forum for the fair and expeditious resolution of disputes.

Except as permitted by California Rules of Court, rule 1.150, General Order 010123-02, and the Juvenile Court Media Policy, no one except authorized court and court security personnel may use any camera-enabled or video-enabled device, including but not limited to, cameras, camcorders, cell phones, PDAs, tablets, iPads, iPods, and watches, to take pictures or videos in any courthouse facilities, courtrooms, or temporary locations that may be set up from time to time to conduct court business on courthouse grounds outside of the courthouse building, or to take pictures or videos of any court files or exhibits, absent written authorization from a judicial officer or the Executive

1 Officer of the court. However, this order does not prohibit the use of portable image-capture devices,  
2 i.e., optical scanners and copy machines, used solely for the purpose of imaging documents. Unless  
3 the person using such a portable image-capture device is an employee of a bonded copy service  
4 company, they may not remove any documents from the file. Anyone seeking to use a portable-  
5 image capture device to image documents will be required to initial and acknowledge the rules set  
6 out for such use on Use of Portable Image-Capturing Devices Acknowledgement (San Diego  
7 Superior Court Form #ADM-329).

8 Any court staff, security personnel, or peace officer who discovers that a person is violating  
9 this order is directed to advise such individual orally of this order, and take steps to provide the  
10 person with a copy of this order as soon as practical. Further, if the person persists in violating this  
11 order despite being informed of it, or has violated the order in a manner that appears to have a  
12 significant adverse impact upon court security or the fair and orderly resolution of court business,  
13 security personnel or a peace officer shall remove the individual(s) from the business office,  
14 courtroom, or other court area, as appropriate.

15 This order shall become effective on January 1, 2023, and expire on December 31, 2023,  
16 unless otherwise ordered by this court.

17 Service of this order shall be made on the San Diego County Sheriff's Department.

18 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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20 DATED: December 28, 2022



21 **HONORABLE MICHAEL T. SMYTH**  
22 **PRESIDING JUDGE**  
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