

Film # 2020-14

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of Rules 15 and 22 of the General Rules of Practice for the Superior and District Courts, and to promote the safety and security of all citizens using the Rockingham County Courthouse, the following policy is established regarding cell phones, laptops, tablets or other electronic devices being brought into the Rockingham County Courthouse. BY [Signature]

Members of the bar and attorneys who have associated with local counsel pursuant to N.C.G.S. 54-4.1, employees of said attorneys, all staff and employees of the agencies and offices housed in the Rockingham County Courthouse, law enforcement officers, and other individuals who have been issued a valid and current identification card by the Sheriff of Rockingham County North Carolina or by a governmental agency of Rockingham County or the State of North Carolina may possess and bring into the courthouse electronic devices capable of recording, broadcasting, or transmitting any video images or audio sounds of the proceeding or the environs. All other persons shall be requested to return any such electronic devices to their vehicles or otherwise refrain from entering the Rockingham County Courthouse with the same and shall be afforded the opportunity to do so by the security screening officers at the courthouse. In the event such an electronic device contains recorded information intended to be offered as evidence in a trial or other hearing the party wanting to offer that evidence shall print the recorded information or download it to a thumb drive or other disposable storage medium.

The use of an electronic device shall not disturb the court. While in the courtroom anyone possessing such a device shall ensure that no sounds are emitted from the device, and the device is used only for official purposes during the proceeding being heard by the Court. Such electronic devices shall not be used to photograph or record any person in the courtroom or any of the public or secured areas adjacent to the courtrooms. Any person not authorized by this Administrative Order to possess an electronic device found to be in possession of the same after having passed through security screening is subject to having the device seized and held until ordered released by the Court, and any person who records, photographs, or attempts to record or photograph any party to a proceeding, juror, witness to a proceeding, or court official may be subject to all of the contempt powers of the Court.

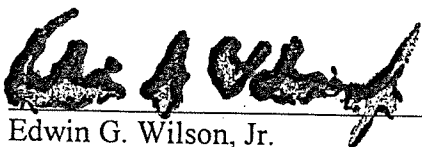
Individuals with disabilities may possess and bring into the courthouse electronic devices capable of recording, broadcasting, or transmitting any video images or audio sounds of the proceeding or environs when the presiding judge has approved the device as a reasonable accommodation for the individual's disability. The request must be made thirty (30) days prior to the court date. The approval must be in writing and the individual's use of the electronic device must adhere to any restrictions placed on the approval.

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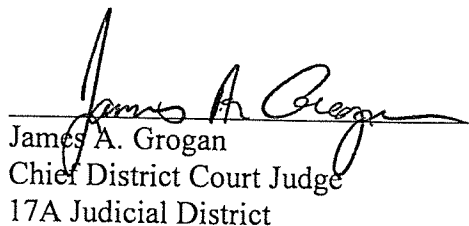
Copies of this Administrative Order shall be posted at the public entrance to the Rockingham County Courthouse, at the public entrances to each courtroom, are being furnished to all offices and agencies located within the Rockingham County Courthouse, all members of the 17A Judicial District Bar Association, all law enforcement agencies within Rockingham County, and to all Rockingham County Governmental agencies issuing identification cards.

This Administrative Order shall become effective upon filing and shall remain in full force and effect until modified as by law allowed.

This the 4th day of June, 2020.

A stylized, dark ink signature of Edwin G. Wilson, Jr. is written over a horizontal line.

Edwin G. Wilson, Jr.
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge
17A Judicial District

A stylized, dark ink signature of James A. Grogan is written over a horizontal line.

James A. Grogan
Chief District Court Judge
17A Judicial District

Posted and promulgated
This 4th day of June, 2020.