

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE RULE FOR
ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY COVERAGE

FILED
DATE: February 9, 2026
TIME: 10:05:10 AM
POLK COUNTY
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
BY: B. Williams

SUPERIOR COURT
Judicial District 42
Henderson, Polk, Transylvania

The North Carolina General Rules of Practice for the Superior and District Courts are established by the North Carolina Supreme Court. Rule 15 therein regulates the electronic media and still photography coverage of public judicial proceedings. "Electronic media" includes television, motion picture and still photography cameras, and any electronic device used for such purpose.

This local rule is a supplement to Rule 15; the mandates of Rule 15 otherwise remain in full effect. It is ordered that:

Persons who wish to use electronic media or still photography for the coverage of any judicial proceeding shall familiarize themselves with Rule 15, and with this local rule, and are responsible for compliance with each. The North Carolina General Rules of Practice, as amended, are posted on the NC Courts website (nccourts.gov) maintained by the N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts. This local rule shall also be posted on said website.

It is specifically noted that, pursuant to Rule 15, "The presiding judge may, however, exercise his or her discretion to permit the use of electronic media and still photography coverage without booths or other restrictions set out in Rule 15(c)(1) and (c)(2) if the use can be made without disruption of the proceedings and without distraction to the jurors and other participants. Such permission may be withdrawn at any time." In any county courthouse within this Judicial District which includes a county-provided booth for use of such electronic media or still photography cameras, permission for its use shall likewise be in the discretion of the presiding judge.

Although not within the definition of electronic media or still photography, the drawing of any likeness of a juror is included by this Local Administrative Rule within the prohibited coverage of jurors as set out in Rule 15.

Any person wishing to photograph or video record any portion of a public judicial proceeding will not bring any camera or video device (in any form) into a courtroom without first obtaining permission from the presiding judge and shall follow such restrictions that the judge imposes.

Audio recordings by any person other than the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court **are prohibited**. This order provides for the pre-approved making of recordings without audio.

Effective this February 9, 2026.

2/9/2026 9:53:13 AM


PETER KNIGHT
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge

I have read the foregoing order, and understand that I am bound by its terms.

Media Entity: _____

Name of Media Representative - Cameraman: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____