NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF GUILFORD

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR RESIDENT SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE
AND CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FILED
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18 R23

IN RE:

SECOND AMENDED
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

CELL PHONES AND OTHER
PERSONAL COMMUNICATION
DEVICES IN COURTHOUSES

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the undersigned that current administrative orders restricting the use of cell phones and other personal communication devices having the capability to take photographs and to record have been insufficient to prevent the unauthorized taking of photographs of persons involved in proceedings in court, such as witnesses, jurors and attorneys, and recording of proceedings, in violation of such orders and Rule 15, General Rules of Practice for the Superior and District Courts, issued by the North Carolina Supreme Court pursuant N.C. Gen. Stat. 7A-34; that certain such devices or devices similar in appearance have the capability to injure or incapacitate; and that it is in the interest of justice, safety and order, that further action be taken to reduce the risk that such devices are used in a manner as to endanger others and disrupt court proceedings;

IT IS ORDERED that cell phones and other personal communication devices are prohibited in the Guilford County Courthouses in Greensboro and High Point. The following are excepted from this prohibition:

1. An individual who displays a current identification card issued by Guilford County authorizing entry to the courthouse without passing through entrance security. However, members of the press who possess Guilford County identification cards may not take photographs or videos or utilize recording devices on their cell phones or laptops inside the courtroom without receiving the express consent of the presiding judge.
2. An attorney who displays a current North Carolina State Bar identification card or valid NC driver's license.
3. An individual (such as a pro se litigant having evidence stored on such a device or a person having a particularized need for such a device) will need to present his/her evidence that is on such device to the presiding Resident Superior Court Judge, Resident District Court Judge, Administrative Law Judge, Deputy Industrial Commissioner or Judge of the Superior or District Court authorized to hold court in Guilford County. If the presiding Judge decides to allow the cell phone evidence then the courtroom clerk will give the pro se litigant a pass to give to security in order to retrieve the device.
4. An individual who is going to the civil magistrate for a case or to get married will need to get a pass from the magistrate and take to security.
5. An attorney who has a current identification card issued by Guilford County, a North Carolina State Bar identification card or valid NC driver's license is allowed to bring in

and hold on to their clients electronics for court. Once their client is done with court the attorney will give it back to the client outside of the courthouse.

6. A Federal, State or local (N.C.) law enforcement or probation and parole officer who displays his or her credentials as such.
7. An individual who displays a current jury summons and who is entering in response to such summons (which includes those who come in to request a jury excusal/deferment).
8. A bail bondsman who displays a current Department of Insurance Bondsman identification card.
9. A judge, commissioner, deputy commissioner or other official of a governmental agency entering the courthouse for the purpose of conducting court or an official hearing, and who displays his or her credentials as such (this includes contractors doing work in the courthouses who have been vetted by Guilford County, the city Fire Marshall and contracted/visiting court reporters).
10. Persons who use their devices to monitor any health related issue(s).

All other administrative orders pertaining to such devices remain in full force and effect. Nothing herein is to be construed to limit the authority of a judge to control the courtroom in which such judge is presiding.

This order is issued 12th of October 2018.

John O. Craig, III
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge

H. Thomas Jarrell, Jr.
Chief District Court Judge