SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF FRESNO
CENTRAL DIVISION

USE OF CAMERAS IN THE )
COURTHOUSE )
)

GENERAL ORDER

No one except authorized court and court security personnel may engage in photographing, recording, or broadcasting, or activate any camera, microphone, recorder or broadcasting device in any courtroom or courthouse in the County where the court conducts business, including all entrances, exits, hallways, escalators, elevators, and adjacent or subterranean court parking areas except as permitted by California Rules of Court, rule 1.150, or as permitted by this order or other order of a judicial officer as set forth herein. This order shall not preclude any law enforcement officer from taking appropriate steps to ensure the orderly and peaceable conduct of court business at a courthouse, including the recording of criminal activity in progress. A law enforcement officer's use of a body camera for passive recording is allowed, provided the camera is set to

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Camera - Any device that has a primary function of recording

"smartphone." Wearable Electronic Device and Wearable Camera -

Any miniature electronic device that is worn under, with, or on

top of clothing and having a primary purpose of image capture or

images and is not part of a multifunction device such as a

recording (such as Google Glass, Go Pro Cameras, Lapel Pin

cameras). Personal Electronic Device - Any device capable of

communicating, transmitting, receiving, or recording messages,

images, sounds, data, or other information by any means including

but not limited to a computer, tablet, cell phone, or blue-tooth

Except for representatives of media or media agencies as

defined in California Rules of Court, rule 1.150(b)(2), no person

shall bring into any courthouse a Camera, Wearable Electronic

Device, or Wearable Camera as defined above, nor may any person

operate a Camera or Personal Electronic Device in violation of

into the courthouse for the purpose of media coverage security

personnel may require that person to either provide a press pass

issued by a local law enforcement agency, other verifiable press

credentials, or a copy of a current filed petition seeking a court

To establish whether a person is bringing a camera

Wearable Electronic Devices and Wearable Cameras and Personal

This order applies to the use of any and all Cameras,

For purposes of this rule, the following definitions apply:

the officer's departmental standards.

Electronic Devices as defined above.

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Personal Electronic Devices may be brought into a court facility but may be used only in accordance with this order and California Rules of Court, rule 1.150. All electronic devices may be inspected by court security personnel.

All persons entering any courthouse shall comply with this order, and California Rules of Court, rule 1.150, as follows:

While in court, no one may engage in photographing, recording, or broadcasting, or activate any camera, microphone, recorder or broadcasting device, except: 1) in a courtroom where the judge has issued an order allowing media coverage under California Rules of Court, rule 1.150, or expressly granted permission, under California Rules of Court, rule 1.150(d) or otherwise, to photograph, record, and/or broadcast; or 2) outside the courtroom, if it is: i) in a designated media area, or ii) with prior written permission from the Presiding Judge, Assistant Presiding Judge or supervising judge. No one may carry any camera, microphone, or recording equipment, or activate the image or sound capturing feature of any computer, mobile telephone, watch or other similar equipment in a courtroom without express written permission from the appropriate judicial officer.

"Court" means the courtroom at issue, the courthouse, and its entrances and exits.

This order does not prohibit the use of portable scanners, cameras, or copiers, provided such devices are used solely for the permissive purpose of imaging documents.

Prior to entering a courtroom, cellular phones, pagers, and all other electronic communication or recording devices must be silenced or, in the discretion of the judicial officer, turned off. No such device shall be handled in any way as to indicate that a picture, audio or video recording is being taken except in compliance with this order. Any such device which disrupts the proceedings shall be subject to confiscation and search. Nothing

in this order shall restrict a judicial officer's discretion to regulate the use of such devices in his or her courtroom.

This order is for the protection of the public, all parties, and court personnel, and to facilitate the fair and orderly resolution of cases. This order is subject to modification based upon specific circumstances and the discretion of an individual judicial officer in that judicial officer's courtroom, the supervising judge of a division, or the Assistant Presiding Judge in the event of the unavailability of the Presiding Judge.

A copy of this order shall be posted on the Court's Web site and shall be made reasonably available or posted near every security entry point into each court building, and at such other locations as the court's Director of Security directs. Violation of this order may result in seizure of the device, monetary sanctions pursuant to section 177.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and/or a finding of contempt pursuant to sections 128 and 1209 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and/or arrest pursuant to Penal Code sections 166(a)(4), 166(a)(5), and 632.

Any court staff, security personnel or peace officer who becomes aware that a person is using a device in violation of this order is directed to advise such individual orally of this order, and take steps to provide the person with a written copy of this order as soon as practical. Security personnel or a peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe a violation of this order has occurred are requested to prepare an incident report, and if the circumstances warrant immediate corrective action because the person persists in violating this order despite being informed of it or has violated the order in a way that appears to have a

significant adverse impact upon court security or the fair and orderly resolution of cases, shall take possession of the device and bring the person without unnecessary delay to the courtroom judicial officer, division supervising judge, Assistant Presiding Judge or Presiding Judge. Such judicial officer may take such action or issue such orders to show cause regarding imposition of sanctions or contempt pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 128, 177.5, and 1209, and concerning the device, as may be appropriate.

Designated media areas are described and depicted in attachment "A" hereto.

Effective immediately, this General Order is to remain in effect until otherwise ordered by the Presiding Judge.

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFOR, IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this /// day of June, 2018.

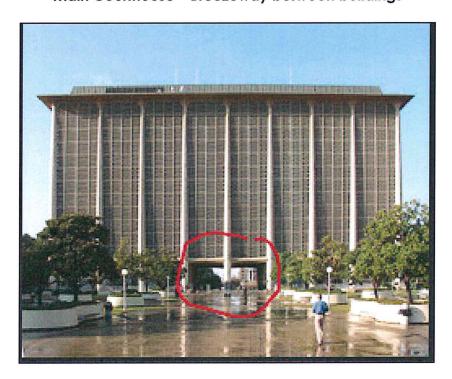
ALAN M SIMPSON

PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

SUPERIOR COURT County of Fresno

## ATTACHMENT "A" TO GENERAL ORDER

Main Courthouse – Breezeway between buildings



B.F. Sisk Courthouse – Front steps – near exit



## ATTACHMENT "A" TO GENERAL ORDER

Traffic Courthouse – Front area – East Side



Juvenile Justice Campus – Front steps – Near Sign

