

## VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KING AND QUEEN

**ORDER RELATING TO PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Pursuant to Virginia Sections 16.1-69.35:4 (B) and 17.1-128.2 of the Code of Virginia (1950) as amended, it is ORDERED that the Circuit Court for King and Queen County adopts the following Portable Electronic Devices Policy, which shall apply to the entirety of the King and Queen County Courthouse.

1. DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this policy, the following definitions will apply.

a. "Portable Electronic Device" means (i) a personal laptop; (ii) a tablet; (iii) a mobile telephone, including a cell phone and any telephone with a camera, audio and video recording capabilities, and transmission capabilities; (iv) an electronic calendar; (v) an electronic book reader; (vi) a smart watch; or (vii) any other electronic personal communication device. "Portable electronic device" does not include a camera, a video camera, video or audio recording equipment, or a recording device that is not otherwise a component of a portable electronic device.

b. "Visitor to the court" means a member of the public who is not an active or retired judge, a magistrate, an attorney-at-law who possesses and presents a valid state bar identification card, a law-enforcement officer as defined in Virginia Code § 9.1-101 or court security officer, a probation officer who possesses and presents proper credentials and who is at the courthouse in the conduct of his official duties, a state or local agency employee who possesses and presents proper credentials and who is at the courthouse in the conduct of his official duties, a court reporter during the course of his official duties within the courthouse, and any other individual who has been authorized to possess a portable electronic device in the court upon a determination by the sheriff of the city or county in which the court sits that such individual's possession of a portable electronic device does not pose a security risk or threat and that access to such portable electronic device is necessary for conducting such individual's work or business in the court.

c. "Member of the public" means a visitor to the court as defined above who is not a Professional Appearing on Official Business or Courthouse Employee.

2. PROFESSIONALS APPEARING ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS: Attorneys, law enforcement officers, Department of Social Services employees, probation officers, court reporters, and victim/witness advocates are permitted to possess and use portable electronic devices in the Courthouse, subject to the restrictions in paragraphs 7, 8, and 9 below.

3. COURTHOUSE EMPLOYEES: Personnel who work in the Courthouse may possess and use portable electronic devices, subject to the restrictions in paragraphs 7, 8, and 9 below and further lawful regulation and restriction by their supervisors.

4. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: In order to maintain safety, security, proper behavior, order, and the administration of justice, a member of the public may bring a portable electronic device into the courthouse only if it is powered off and placed in a locked Yondr pouch. The pouch must remain locked inside the courthouse unless otherwise authorized by a judge.

5. DEVICES FOR PRESENTING EVIDENCE: To ensure that any portable electronic device brought to the court for the purpose of presenting evidence will be made available for such use, a bailiff in each courtroom in session shall have a device capable of opening a Yondr pouch. Yondr pouches will be opened at the direction of the presiding judge when needed for the purposes of presenting evidence.

6. SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION: A visitor to the court with specific authority from the Court may possess and use their portable electronic devices within the scope of that authority, subject to the restrictions in paragraphs 7, 8, and 9 below.

7. USE TO PHOTOGRAPH, RECORD, BROADCAST, OR TRANSMIT: Any use of a portable electronic device or other device in the courthouse or courtrooms to take photographs, make audio or video recordings, or transmit live audio or video streaming shall be prohibited except with prior written authorization by a presiding judge.

8. USE IN COMMON AREAS: A judge or other authorized officer may further restrict use of portable electronic devices while in common areas of the Courthouse—such as lobbies and corridors—as needed to maintain safety, security, proper behavior, order, and the administration of justice.

9. USE IN COURTROOMS: Professionals Appearing on Official Business and Courthouse Employees may use portable electronic devices in courtrooms subject to the restrictions in paragraphs 7, 8, and 9 and further prohibition or restriction by the presiding judge. Portable electronic devices must remain silent.

10. PROHIBITED DEVICES: Cameras, video cameras, video or audio recording equipment, and recording devices—including smart glasses—that are not otherwise a component of a “portable electronic device” under this policy are not considered “portable electronic devices” under this policy and are prohibited inside the courthouse absent specific written permission of the presiding judge.

11. COURT REPORTERS: Notwithstanding paragraphs 7 and 9 above, licensed court reporters retained by the court or one of the parties to create an official record of the proceedings may bring audio recording equipment into the courthouse for use in their official duties. Moreover, in furtherance of their official duties, court reporters may audio record the proceedings for which they are tasked to create an official transcript.

12. CONFISCATION OF EQUIPMENT AND EJECTION OF USER: Persons violating this Order may be ejected from the Courthouse and/or found in contempt of court and subject to penalties as provided by law for contempt. Any portable electronic device used or possessed in violation of this Order or related order or policy may be confiscated.

13. MEDIA REGULATION: Nothing in this order limits a court's authority pursuant to Virginia Code § 19.2-266 to regulate media coverage of judicial proceedings.

ENTERED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026.

*B. Elliott Bondurant*

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B. Elliott Bondurant  
Judge, King and Queen Circuit Court



A TRUE COPY - TESTE  
HATTIE M. ROBINSON, CLERK  
*Hattie Robinson* Clerk  
ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATION MADE  
PURSUANT TO §17.1-258-3:2