

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2019-87

In Re: Filming in Federal Courthouse
Buildings in the Southern District of Florida

FILED BY CW D.C.

Nov 13, 2019

ANGELA E. NOBLE
CLERK U.S. DIST. CT.
S. D. OF FLA. - MIA

At a regularly scheduled Judges' Meeting, the current policy regarding the use of electronic devices in the federal courthouse facilities within the Southern District of Florida was reviewed. On October 17, 2018, Administrative Order 2018-79 was entered limiting the types of electronic devices that may be brought into, and used in, any federal courthouse facility within the Southern District of Florida. As stated in paragraph II of Administrative Order 2018-79, and pursuant to Local Rule 77.1, "... cameras of any type are not allowed in any of the federal court facilities without a written order by a judge and verified by the United States Marshals Service except for attendees of naturalization ceremonies." The policy further states "**No cellular phones of any kind may be used as a camera or recording device in a courtroom or jury deliberations room. No photographs of any kind may be taken in any federal courthouse facility except in connection with naturalization hearings.**" Upon further consideration, based upon the majority vote of Judges in attendance considering the matter, it is

ORDERED that the policy prohibiting the use of cellular phones as a camera or recording device will now prohibit photographing or filming in all lobby areas of any building housing a federal court. The language¹ of paragraph II of Administrative Order 2018-79 is amended as follows:

II. Cameras and Cellular Phones with Integrated Camera Device.

Pursuant to Southern District of Florida Local Rule 77.1, cameras of any type are not allowed in any of the federal courthouse facilities without a written order signed by a judge and verified by the United States Marshals Service except for attendees of naturalization hearings. Notwithstanding that Local Rule, those persons permitted to bring a cellular phone into a federal courthouse facility, pursuant to the exceptions listed, may bring that cellular phone, even if it contains an integrated camera device, into any federal courthouse facility. **No cellular phones of any kind may be used as a camera or recording device in a courtroom, jury deliberations room or any lobby area of any building housing a federal court. No filming or photographs of any kind may be taken in any federal courthouse facility, building housing a federal court, including any lobby areas, except in connection with naturalization hearings. It will be within the discretion of the presiding judge whether photographs are allowed to be taken inside the courtroom during naturalization hearings or other special proceedings, ceremonies or events.**

¹ Language to be deleted is ~~stricken~~, and language to be added is double underlined.

The United States Marshals Service is to continue to inspect all cellular phones and other electronic equipment as they are brought into the federal courthouse facilities as directed to protect the Bench, Bar, and public from harm. It is further

ORDERED that the penalty for knowing or willful violation of this Administrative Order includes a sentence of 30 days in jail and/or a fine of \$5,000.00; and/or punishment for contempt of court. *See* Local Rule 77.1; 41 C.F.R. §§ 102-74.385; 102-74.420; 102-74.450; 18 U.S.C. § 401. It is further

ORDERED that all other provisions of Administrative Order 2018-79 shall remain in effect.

This Order shall be effective immediately.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida, this 13th day of November, 2019.



K. MICHAEL MOORE

UNITED STATES CHIEF DISTRICT JUDGE

- c: All South Florida Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals Judges
All Southern District Judges
All Southern District Bankruptcy Judges
All Southern District Magistrate Judges
James P. Gerstenlauer, Circuit Executive, Eleventh Circuit
United States Marshal
United States Attorney
Federal Public Defender
Court Administrator · Clerk of Court
Clerk, Bankruptcy Court
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