

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:)
)
POSSESSION AND USE OF) ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY
ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN) (Effective June 1, 2005)
COURTHOUSES)

STANDING ORDER NO. 05-3

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the following Electronic Device Policy has been adopted by the Court:

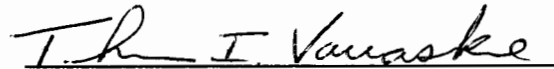
- (1) The term "*Electronic Devices*" refers to those devices (both currently available as well as future technology) that have as their primary function wireless communication, the storage and retrieval of digitized data, and computer applications.
- (2) All persons granted entrance into the Federal Courthouse are permitted to possess any Electronic Device, as defined herein, including cell phones, pagers, notebook/laptop computers, handheld computers and schedulers (such as Palm Pilots and Pocket PCs), and wireless devices (such as Blackberries). However, unless otherwise permitted by court order, use of any device to take photographs anywhere inside this United States Courthouse and Federal Building is expressly forbidden.
- (3) Before persons with Electronic Devices are granted entry into the Courthouse, all devices must be physically examined by Court Security Personnel. This examination includes, but is not limited to, placing the device through an X-Ray machine, evaluation with an ionic detector and any other physical assessment deemed necessary.
- (4) Persons possessing an Electronic Device may use their device while in common areas of the Courthouse, such as lobbies, but, with the exception of United States Marshals Service personnel, the power to all electronic devices must be turned off upon entry to a courtroom or judicial chambers. Nor shall persons be permitted to leave electronic devices on when entering courtrooms by setting audible alarms to a non-audible mode (such as vibrate). An Electronic Device may be rendered operable in any courtroom or judicial chambers only with the express permission of the presiding judge.

- (5) Jurors in possession of electronic devices will surrender these devices to court staff prior to entering the jury room to commence deliberations. Grand jurors in possession of electronic devices will surrender these devices to court staff prior to entering the Grand Jury room.

- (6) This Order may be superceded on a temporary basis in the interests of security and in order to ensure fair and impartial justice in individual cases.

SO ORDERED

April 29, 2005



Thomas I. Vanaskie, Chief Judge
Middle District of Pennsylvania